

WHITEPAPER

What you should know before buying a scanner SDK



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What is an SDK?

An SDK, short for **S**oftware **D**evelopment **K**it, is a set of software programs and information for various platforms provided by hardware and software developers. This allows developers to integrate finished function components of the SDK directly into their application. SDKs can be provided in different programming languages for different target platforms.

Main components of an SDK usually are:

APIs

Programming interfaces

Documentation

in the form of instructions and tutorials from
the providers for the developers

Code examples

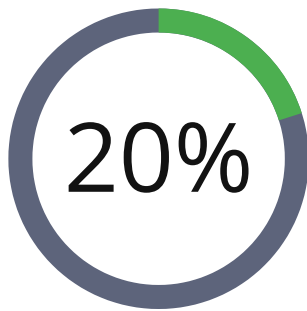
for illustration of use in the applications

Code-Libraries

Libraries, which collect a collection of
reusable code parts

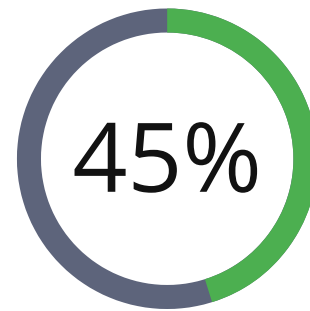
Why an SDK makes sense for you

Digital process flows represent a decisive **competitive advantage** in many industries. While paper-based processes are time-consuming and costly, and have been shown to negatively impact employee productivity, the following research and survey results make the case for using digital applications in everyday business:



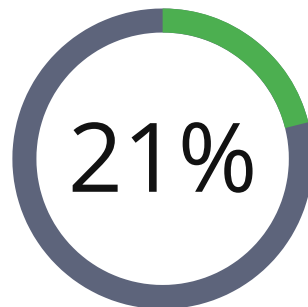
Cost reduction

according to Business Review through the digital archiving of paper documents¹



Efficiency increase

of business processes through the use of digital technologies and Profitability increase according to Forbes report²



Productivity losses

due to employee problems with paper-based documentation according to a survey by IDC³

¹ Digital archiving reduces companies' costs with more than 20% - Business Review (business-review.eu)

² Digital Transformation Benefits Beyond Cost Reduction (forbes.com)

³ Bridging the Information Worker Productivity Gap: Challenges and Opportunities for IT (warekennis.nl)

To digitize business processes in companies of any industry, the use of a document management system, or DMS for short, is a good start. Such a system includes at least the functions of a **scanner**, automatic document recognition in the form of **OCR** and **data extraction**. Such tools can be purchased individually as part of an SDK.

Here are **five good reasons to purchase an SDK**:

1. Easy and quick integration

Ready-made SDK components such as a scan SDK can be integrated into applications within a day thanks to APIs and instructions. This means developers do not have to invest time in complex in-house developments.

2. Optimized resource allocation

To allow developers to focus on their core competencies, acquiring an SDK efficiently saves time & cost compared to in-house development.

3. Experience and mature quality

SDK components are used many times and are thus continuously developed and optimized. This means very high quality of the matured components, directly from integration.

4. Professional support

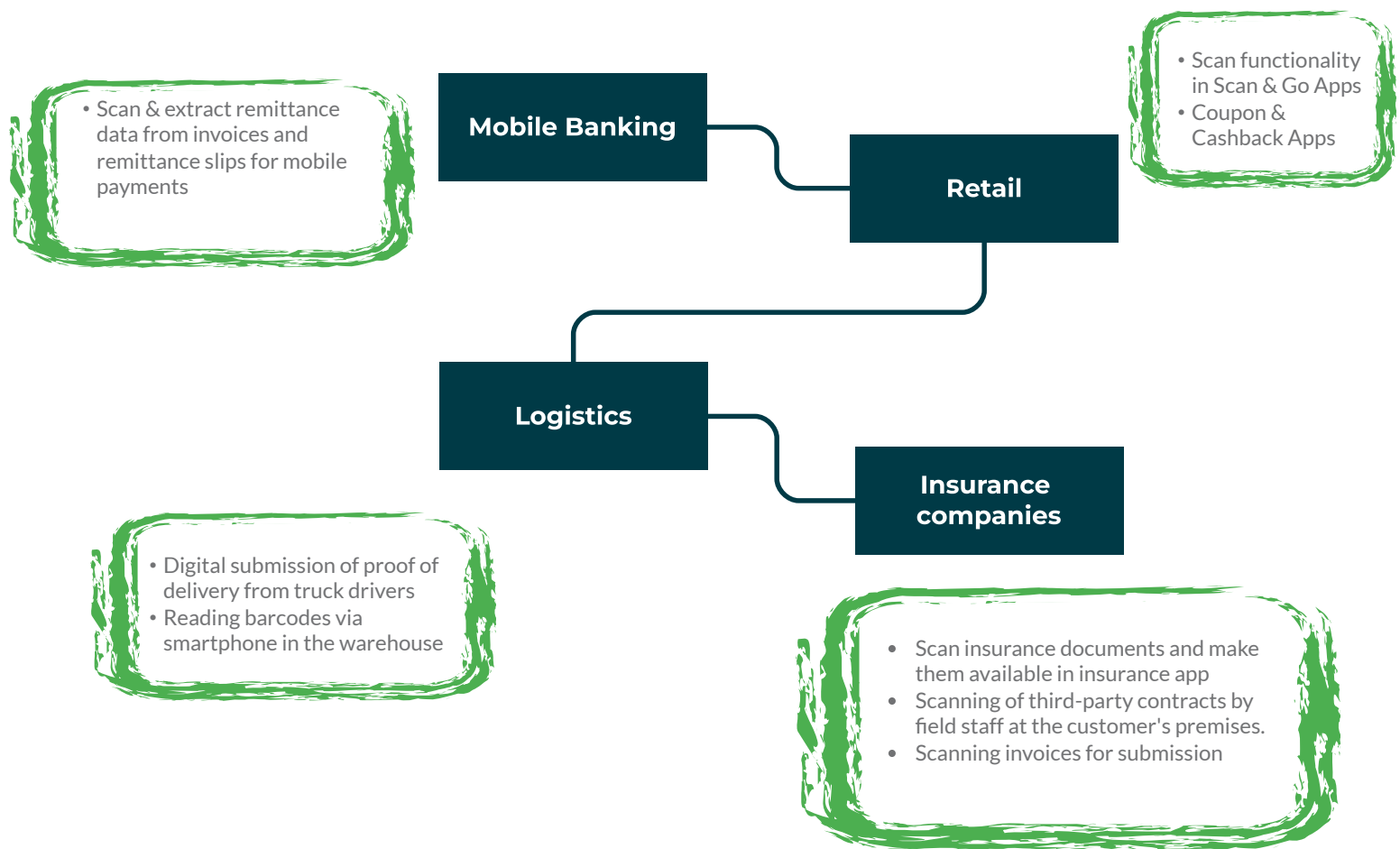
Support is also provided with the purchase of the SDK to ensure direct communication between developers and thus ongoing support.

5. Maintenance included

Continuous updates ensure the permanent optimal usability of the SDK for the companies and end users.

How can you use an SDK?

As already mentioned, a scanner SDK can be used **across all industries** and is particularly relevant if you want to **digitize and optimize processes**. This can be relevant if you as a company offer an application to end customers (B2B and B2C) and also if you need the SDK for integration into applications for internal processes in the company. To give you an overview of the **diversity of the use of a scanner SDK**, here are some typical examples from different industries:



How does an SDK work?

**05**

**Go-Live of the application with
integrated SDK**

**04**

Testing the SDK

**03**

**Integration of the SDK using the
supplied components by the
developers**

**02**

**Access of the software components
on the integrated development
environment**

**01**

**Download of the SDK on corresponding
developer platform**

(often access is also given in advance for testing purposes)

What to look for when buying a scanner SDK

If you decide to purchase a scanner SDK, you should check with the different providers and compare which offer makes sense for you. In doing so, we advise you to pay attention to the following aspects:

Data Processing & Privacy

One of the most important aspects of using an SDK is the underlying processing model. Often, it is sensitive information that is processed using a scanner SDK, worthy of protection according to the GDPR. Therefore, it is advisable to use an **offline solution**, as the scanned and recognized information remains locally on the device. Furthermore, it must be ensured that the interfaces used for the APIs supplied are **offline APIs**. In concrete terms, this means that there are no connections to external servers. This also saves you from having to create data processing contracts in later processes with end customers, for example, and you can market this to your end users as a USP.

License model of the SDK

Another important aspect when selecting a scanner SDK is the underlying pricing model. Above all, it should be **flexible and transparent**. Flexibility in this case means application-dependent. Many SDK models work with an **annual fixed price**, which includes support and upgrades. This enables high planning security and makes you independent of the number of transactions (e.g. scans). If you are a small company and your application is still under construction or will be used or is used by few users in the long term, a **usage-based licensing model** is advantageous in order to be able to respond to individual needs.

Support & Performance

As mentioned before, a major advantage of purchasing an SDK is the option of having support from knowledgeable and experienced developers. However, the support is not included in all offers directly in the fixed price, but can also be purchased separately in the form of additional packages. To ensure smooth integration, it is important to consider whether the quality of the documentation supplied is sufficient or whether you want to include extra support in the total price.

You can often get a first impression of the usability of the SDK free test apps with exemplary integrations.



Introducing the Docutain Scanner SDK

If you are about to buy a scanner SDK, you should definitely take a look at the **Docutain Scanner SDK**. This has been in use for years in form of the successful Docutain app for Android, iOS and Windows and is used by several million users every day. Thanks to regular user feedback and constant further development, the integrated scan SDK is always up to date and corresponds to the "state-of-the-art" functionalities with the highest scan quality and automatic recognition. This has also secured Docutain the ranking as **best scanner app** in the apps magazine of the CDA publishing house for several years in a row:

Die beste Scanner-App

Docutain: PDF Scanner App, OCR

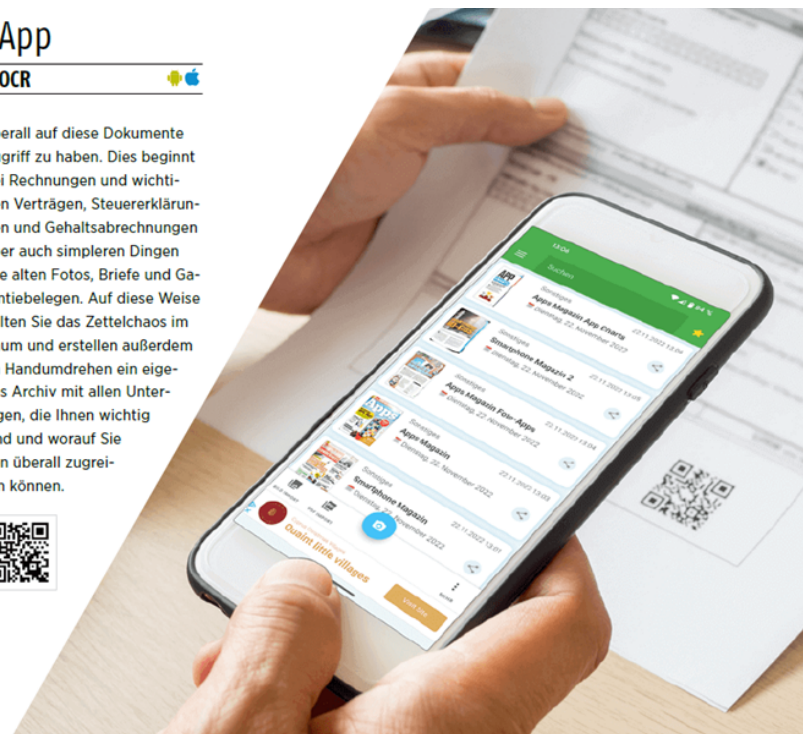


Mit der App Docutain wird Ihr Smartphone nicht nur zum Scanner, sondern Sie erhalten ein vollständiges und sicheres Dokumentenmanagementsystem. Durch Dokumentenerkennung, automatisches Auslösen der Kamera und Perspektiv- sowie Farbkorrektur lässt sich ein nahezu perfektes Scanergebnis herstellen.

Die erstellten Dokumente können als PDF-Datei exportiert und direkt geteilt bzw. versendet werden. Dank einer automatischen Texterkennung können Sie die eingescannten Schriftstücke durch einen Tipp auf das Lupen-Symbol nach bestimmten Schlagwörtern durchforsten.

Die App eignet sich auch, um alle wichtigen Unterlagen zu digitalisieren und, um von

überall auf diese Dokumente Zugriff zu haben. Dies beginnt bei Rechnungen und wichtigen Verträgen, Steuererklärungen und Gehaltsabrechnungen aber auch simpleren Dingen wie alten Fotos, Briefe und Garantiebelegen. Auf diese Weise halten Sie das Zettelchaos im Zaum und erstellen außerdem im Handumdrehen ein eigenes Archiv mit allen Unterlagen, die Ihnen wichtig sind und worauf Sie von überall zugreifen können.



Excerpt from Apps Magazine January - March 2023

These clients already use the Docutain SDK



In the following, features and core aspects of the Docutain Scanner SDK will be presented:

Packages

The Docutain SDK is divided into different function packages and supports the popular operating systems Android, iOS, iPad OS, MacOS (Mac Catalyst) and Windows.

**Mobile
document scanner**

**Barcode
scanner**

**Text recognition thanks
to local ORC
functionality**

**Data recognition &
Data extraction**

1. Mobile document scanner

With Docutain, you get the option to automate document scanning for the best scanning results based on artificial intelligence. The user just holds the smartphone over the document and the app does the rest. Thus a user-friendly experience is enabled. Real-time document recognition, automatic triggering at the perfect moment, intelligent filters and perspective correction ensure the optimal scanning result.

These clients already use the Docutain SDK



2. Barcode scanner

With Docutain's Barcode Scan SDK, your users can use their smartphones to capture most standard barcode formats in real time.

Supported 1D & 2D barcode formats are:

Codabar, Code 39, Code 93, Code 128, EAN-8, EAN-13, ITF, UPC-A, UPC-E, Aztec, Data Matrix, PDF417, QR Code

3. Text recognition thanks to local OCR functionality

Create searchable PDF files from scanned and/or imported PDF or image documents or use the text for further processing in your backend.

OCR text recognition is also the basis for Docutain's Data Extraction SDK (package 4). The text recognition runs offline, locally on the device.

4. Data recognition & Data extraction

Extract structured data, such as addresses, account information (IBAN), amounts, invoice number, customer number, date, fields of the wage tax certificate etc. on the basis of the recognized text and use this information to optimize/ automate your processes. Like the text recognition, the data capture SDK runs in real time, offline on the device.

These clients already use the Docutain SDK



Data security

We are aware of how important **data protection** is for companies.



Therefore, the SDK works **locally on the device and 100% offline**. No internet connection is necessary.



At **no time data is stored on servers or forwarded to third parties**. We therefore never have access to the data of the scans in your app.



With **on-device encryption**, we help you secure data by encrypting every scan and all captured data directly on the user's device.

These clients already use the Docutain SDK



Licensing model

A **transparent** pricing model is important to us. In order to give you as a company the highest planning security, the composition of the price depends on the following factors and issues, among others:

1. Which functionalities/ packages are needed?

- Scanning (documents, barcodes)
- Scanning + text recognition (OCR)
- Scanning + text recognition (OCR)+ data extraction

2. For which **platforms** is the SDK needed?

3. How many **products** will the SDK be integrated into?

4. How many **users** work with the product/ the products?

The Docutain SDK price includes the following services in addition to the delivered components:



Support



Maintenance



Unrestricted
usage



New
functions

These clients already use the Docutain SDK



Have we sparked your interest?

Feel free to contact us without obligation!

Our team will be happy to answer all your questions about the Docutain SDK packages Scanner, Barcode Scanner, Data Recognition, Data Extraction and will also be happy to offer you a demo.



SDK@Docutain.com

Try our Docutain SDK Demo App

Just download our free trial app with a sample integration of the Docutain scan and data capture SDK.



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These clients already use the Docutain SDK

