



Snapform Commander – Manual

Thank you for choosing Snapform Commander.

The Snapform Commander is a powerful command line tool which handles single or repetitive tasks around QDF forms: You can easily perform a mail merge, generate PDF files, do mass print operations, create personalized forms using XML or CSV data, export forms' data to CSV, etc. All tasks can be handled in batch or single mode. The commands are executed "interface-less" in the background without the need to start the Snapform Viewer. This allows you a smooth and seamless integration into third party software applications.

The Snapform Commander requires a license that can be purchased from Ringler Informatik, Switzerland. Please contact us by email for further information about licensing options (info@snapform.com).

Snapform Commander supports following command lines:

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1. Register the Snapform Commander

Description: This command registers the license of Snapform Commander. You have to perform this action once per user profile on every machine where you are using Snapform Commander.

Without a proper license, the Snapform Commander will run in demo mode and add a watermark on each document created.

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -register <path to registration key file (.sfkey)> <name of license owner>`

Sample: `C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -register "C:\John_Doe_Company.sfkey" "License owner"`



2. Show licensing information

Description: This command licenses Snapform Commander for the User. You have to perform this action once per user profile on every machine where you are using Snapform Commander.

Without a proper license, the Snapform Commander will run in demo mode and add a watermark on each document created.

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -license`

Sample: `C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -license`



3. Convert QDF files to PDF

Description: This command converts one or multiple Snapform documents (QDF) located in the <QDF form(s) path> to a PDF file and stores them in the directory specified as <PDF file path | Output folder>.

If a single QDF file is converted, you need to specify the PDF file path. In case you convert multiple QDF files you need to specify the path to the output folder.

For batch conversions, you can use wildcards.

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -pdf <QDF form(s) path> <PDF file path | Output folder>`

Samples:

```
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -pdf "C:\source.qdf" "C:\destination.pdf"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -pdf "C:\*.qdf" "C:\pdf-output\  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -pdf "C:\\" "C:\pdf-output\"
```



4. Print QDF files

Description: This command prints one or multiple Snapform documents (QDF) located in the <QDF form(s) path> to a printer named [printer name]. The parameter [printer name] is optional - if omitted it prints to a default printer.

Printer name should be the same as declared in "Printers and Faxes".

For batch printing of multiple QDF files, you can use wildcards.

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -qdf2print <QDF form(s) path> [printer name (optional)]`

Samples:

```
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -print "C:\form.qdf" "Brother 5040"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -print "C:\*.qdf" "Brother 5040"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -print "C:\" "Brother 5040"
```



5. XML2QDF: Merge XML files with a QDF template and create new QDF files

Description: This command merges one or multiple XML files with a Snapform template (QDF) and creates new, prefilled QDF files. XML files are located in the <XML path>. The QDF template is located in the <QDF template path>. The QDF output is stored in the directory specified as <Output folder>.

For batch conversions, you can use wildcards.

Command: <path to commander.exe> -xml2qdf <QDF template path> <XML file(s) path> <Output folder>

Samples:

```
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2qdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\data.xml" "C:\qdf-output\  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2qdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\*.xml" "C:\qdf-output\  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2qdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\" "C:\qdf-output\"
```



6. XML2PDF: Merge XML files with a QDF template and create PDF files

Description: This command merges one or multiple XML files with a Snapform template (QDF) and creates PDF files. XML files are located in the <XML path>. The QDF template is located in the <QDF template path>. The PDF output is stored in the directory specified as <Output folder>.

For batch conversions, you can use wildcards.

Command: <path to commander.exe> -xml2pdf <QDF template path> <XML file(s) path> <Output folder>

Samples:

```
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2pdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\data.xml" "C:\pdf-output\  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2pdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\*.xml" "C:\pdf-output\  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2pdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\\" "C:\pdf-output\"
```



7. XML2PRINT: Merge one or multiple XML files with a QDF template and print the result

Description: This command merges one or multiple XML files with a Snapform template (QDF) and prints them. XML files are located in the <XML file(s) path>. The QDF template is located in the <QDF template path>. The parameter [printer name] is optional - if omitted it prints to a default printer.

Printer name should be the same as declared in "Printers and Faxes".

For batch conversions, you can use wildcards.

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -xml2print <QDF template path> <XML file(s) path> [printer name (optional)]`

Samples:

```
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2print "C:\template.qdf" "C:\data.xml" "Brother 5040"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2print "C:\template.qdf" "C:\*.xml" "Brother 5040"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -xml2print "C:\template.qdf" "C:\" "Brother 5040"
```



8. CSV2QDF: Merge CSV files with a QDF template and create new QDF files

Description: This command merges the content of a CSV file with a Snapform template (QDF) and creates new, prefilled QDF files. The CSV file is located in the <CSV path>. The QDF template is located in the <QDF template path>. The QDF output is stored in the directory specified as <Output folder>.

Please note:

- The first line (header) of the CSV file must contain the correct names of the form fields.
- The data in the CSV needs to be correctly formatted (e.g. date fields need to contain date information, etc.). Otherwise, the field will not be imported.
- The content of read-only fields file might not be imported in case they are automatically re-calculated by the QDF form (e.g. totals, etc.).

If you are unsure about the CSV structure, export your QDF template to CSV first in order to analyze the correct structure (see Chapter 8).

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -csv2qdf <QDF template path> <CSV file path> <Output folder>`

Sample: `C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -csv2qdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\data.csv" "C:\qdf-output\"`



9. CSV2PDF: Merge CSV files with a QDF template and create new PDF files

Description: This command merges the content of a CSV file with a Snapform template (QDF) and creates new, prefilled PDF files. The CSV file is located in the <CSV path>. The QDF template is located in the <QDF template path>. The PDF output is stored in the directory specified as <Output folder>.

Please note:

- The first line (header) of the CSV file must contain the correct names of the form fields.
- The data in the CSV needs to be correctly formatted (e.g. date fields need to contain date information, etc.). Otherwise, the field will not be imported.
- The content of read-only fields file might not be imported in case they are automatically re-calculated by the QDF form (e.g. totals, etc.).

If you are unsure about the CSV structure, export your QDF template to CSV first in order to analyze the correct structure (see Chapter 8).

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -csv2pdf <QDF template path> <CSV file path> <Output folder>`

Sample: `C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -csv2pdf "C:\template.qdf" "C:\data.csv" "C:\pdf-output\"`



10. CSV2PRINT: Merge CSV files with a QDF template and print the result

Description: This command merges the content of a CSV file with a Snapform template (QDF) and prints them. The CSV file is located in the <CSV path>. The QDF template is located in the <QDF template path>. The parameter [printer name] is optional - if omitted it prints to a default printer.

Printer name should be the same as declared in "Printers and Faxes".

Please note:

- The first line (header) of the CSV file must contain the correct names of the form fields.
- The data in the CSV needs to be correctly formatted (e.g. date fields need to contain date information, etc.). Otherwise, the field will not be imported.
- The content of read-only fields file might not be imported in case they are automatically re-calculated by the QDF form (e.g. totals, etc.).

If you are unsure about the CSV structure, export your QDF template to CSV first in order to analyze the correct structure (see Chapter 8).

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -csv2print <QDF template path> <CSV file path> [printer name (optional)]`

Sample: `C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -csv2print "C:\template.qdf" "C:\data.csv" "Brother 5040"`



11. QDF2CSV: Analyze one or multiple QDF form(s) and export the content to a CSV file

Description: This command analyzes the data structure and content of one or multiple Snapform files (QDF) and exports the data content to a CSV file with proper structure and content. The first line of the CSV file will contain the names of the form fields. The QDF file is located in the <QDF file(s) path>. The output is stored in the directory specified as <CSV output path>.

Please note:

- Due to the flat structure of a CSV file, table contents cannot be exported to CSV.
- If you are exporting multiple QDF files, make sure that all QDF files have to have the same data structure and carry the same form ID.

Command: `<path to commander.exe> -qdf2csv <QDF file(s) path> <CSV output path>`

Samples:

```
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -qdf2csv "C:\form.qdf" "C:\data.csv"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -qdf2csv "C:\*.qdf" "C:\data.csv"  
C:\SnapformViewer\viewer\tools\commander.exe -qdf2csv "C:\\" "C:\data.csv"
```