



PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 27th May 2004

I.R.I.S. announces the immediate availability of a unique **Hebrew add-on for **Readiris Pro 9 Corporate Edition and standard Edition****

The Flagship product for Text Recognition (OCR) enlarges its Languages recognition!

Brussels, 27th May 2004 – I.R.I.S. Group, a publicly traded company (Euronext: IRI), market leader in Automatic Document Recognition (ADR), Electronic Document Management (EDM) and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) announced today the immediate availability of **Hebrew Optical Character Recognition** capability in Readiris Pro 9, the company flagship product for Text Recognition (OCR).

Hebrew OCR is presented as an **Add-on Module to Readiris Pro 9**. Existing users of Readiris Pro 9 (or Readiris Pro 9 Corporate Edition) will be able to take advantage of this new feature by installing the Hebrew add-on on their existing configuration.

Pierre De Muelenaere, President & CEO of I.R.I.S. Group, comments this new product introduction: *"We are very pleased to introduce this new product. We believe that our technology of Hebrew OCR is the most powerful and most complete available on the market. For instance, we can generate fully-searchable PDF, with the full-text index in Hebrew. We can also generate Hebrew documents in HTML, Word, etc... Hebrew recognition represents an interesting challenge with a specific alphabet, reading from right-to-left and the regular mix of Hebrew and English in many documents. This was an interesting development and we are happy to propose a very advanced solution that should be well received by the market."*

A technical Note on Hebrew Recognition

The Hebrew language has some unique specifications that represent technical challenges:

The Hebrew alphabet supports a limited set of 27 symbols. Five letters have a final form, which is used when they appear at the end of a word

-All the letters are **uppercase** - THERE ARE NO LOWERCASE LETTERS IN HEBREW!

-The symbol set is composed of **consonants**: the vowels are not usually written (except in the Bible, poetry and books for children and foreign learners).

כ	ך	י	ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
kaḵ	yōd	tēt	hēt	záyin	wāw	hē	dālet	gímel	bēt	'álep	
k, k̄	y	t	ḥ	z	w	h	d, ḏ	g, ḡ	b, ḅ	'	
[k, x]	[j]	[t]	[x]	[z]	[v]	[h]	[d]	[g]	[b, v]	[ʔ, ʔ̄]	

ת	ש	ר	ק	צ	ץ	פ	ף	ע	ס	נ	ן	מ	ם	ל
tāw	śin/šīn	rēš	qōḇ	sāḡē	pē	áyin	sāmek	nūn	mēm	lāmed				
t, ṭ	ś, ś̄	r	q	ṣ	p, p̄	'	s	n	m	l				
[t]	[ʃ, s]	[ʀ]	[k]	[ts]	[p, f]	[ʔ, ʔ̄]	[s]	[n]	[m]	[l]				

- There are no separate **numerals** in Hebrew. The standard Western numerals (1, 2, 3 etc.) are used instead.

- Hebrew text is not written on lines. Rather the text hangs from a line above the letters.

זה לעשות למען המדינה בכל

- Hebrew is written from **right to left**, just like Arabic.

- However, numbers are written from left to right, and so are embedded phrases in Latin script. In other words: when numbers and Latin words are inserted in Hebrew texts, both the reading direction and the alphabet change in midcourse!

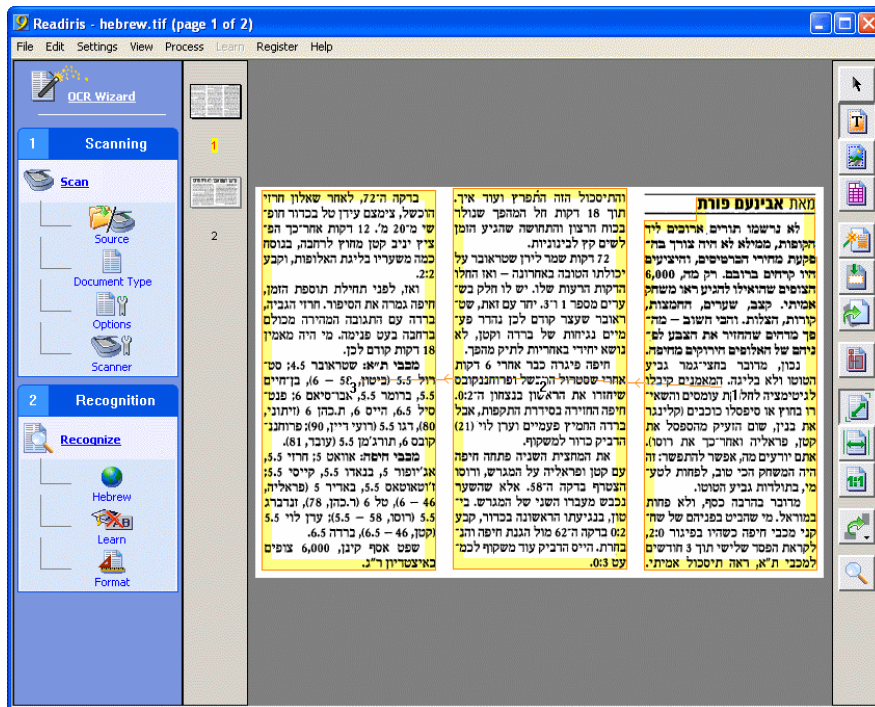
כאשר העולם רוצה לדבר, הוא מדבר ב-Unicode.
 הירשמו כעת לכנס Unicode הבינלאומי העשירי,
 שייערך בין התאריכים 10-12 במרץ 1997 במיניץ
 שבגרמניה. בכנס ישתתפו מומחים מכל ענפי
 התעשייה בנושא האינטרנט העולמי וה-Unicode

Features of the Hebrew add-on

The Hebrew OCR add-on allows to activate the following additional features:

- Recognition of Hebrew text

- Recognition of Hebrew Text mixed with English Text
- Proprietary lexicon for Hebrew: This lexicon contains 1,117,685 words, no less!
- Page Analysis and Page formatting adapted to Hebrew documents: Hebrew requires a special decomposition routine too. In Hebrew, just as in Arabic, the text is written from right to left, and that means the text zones have to be sorted from right to left! Readiris adopts the Hebrew "text flow", where the text runs from right to left; the page analysis sorts the various zone blocks accordingly.



- Generation of searchable PDF file with the full-text index in Hebrew or in Hebrew + english
- Output to Word (RTF, wysiwyg presentation, column or frames, with embedded graphics and pictures)
- Output to Excel
- Output to HTML (XHTML/HTML4.0, HTML x.0, wysiwyg presentation, including graphics and pictures)

All the new features of Readiris Pro 9 remain also accessible:

- New User Interface
- Unbeatable Speed and Accuracy
- Powerful Page Analysis
- High-Quality Display of the Document Image
- Easy Handling of Multipage Documents
- Enhanced Autoformat™ Technology

- Flowing Text Mode for Easier Editing
- Improved Output Formats
- Single-click OCR of Text Zones Sends Results to the Clipboard
- New Function Prints the Scanned Images
- Recognition of New Symbols (©, ®, ¢ etc.)

The Hebrew OCR add-on can incorporate Hebrew OCR in both Readiris Pro and Readiris Pro Corporate Edition.

Readiris Pro 9

The Readiris Pro 9 is a powerful productivity tool for flatbed scanners, "all-in-one" devices and digital cameras.

It saves time and eliminates your manual encoding tasks!

Readiris Pro is ideal for private and professional users as well as for companies who need to convert small and large volumes of documents into digital information. Scan any paper documents, open any image or PDF files and Readiris Pro 9 retypes them and recreates the original layout with unprecedented speed and OCR accuracy.

Readiris Pro 9 Corporate Edition

The Readiris Pro 9 Corporate edition contains new extra features geared towards the professional user: the automated "batch processing" of large document collections, the support of high-speed and duplex scanners, the use of custom user lexicons (that reflect your company's activity) during the OCR, the possibility to activate several languages simultaneously, business card recognition etc...

Batch OCR executes the recognition on all prescanned images in a specific folder.

The recognized documents get the same file name as the image files.

Readiris Pro 9 Corporate Edition can set up a "watched folder". Readiris systematically executes the recognition on any image file that gets dropped in a specific folder. You can leave the OCR software running day after day... Acquire new documents and they will be recognized promptly.

System Requirements

Add-on only available for versions 9 for Windows

- The Hebrew OCR "add-on" only works on version 9.0 and later of the Readiris software.
- This extra module takes about 10 MB of hard disk space
- Only available for Windows operating system: 98/2000/NT/XP
- To view and edit Hebrew documents, you can use Word 2003 (Office 2003 System), Word 2002 (Office XP) or Word 2000 (Office 2000) or install a Hebrew version of the Windows operating system
- To view and edit Hebrew PDF documents, you can use the Hebrew or Middle-Eastern version of the Adobe Acrobat or Adobe Reader software. Tip: these versions of Adobe Reader can be found on the Readiris CD-ROM.

Price and availability

The Hebrew OCR "add-on" is available through Value Added Resellers and can be bought at 399 € TTC (Suggested Retail Price, VAT Added). It is also available on I.R.I.S.' online shop.

About I.R.I.S.

Image Recognition Integrated Systems (I.R.I.S.), a Belgian company founded in 1987 and listed on Euronext Brussels (IRI), is a leader in the "Document to Knowledge" market, and provides extremely high-quality solutions for converting paper documents into electronic formats for archiving, storing, managing and sharing digital information.

In 2003, the revenue of I.R.I.S. Group was € 42.729.660 I.R.I.S. has more than 220 employees based in Louvain-la-Neuve and Brussels (Belgium), Massy and Rueil-Malmaison (France), Luxembourg and Delray Beach (USA).



I.R.I.S. has been awarded "Enterprise of the Year 2002" by the Belgian committee of the worldwide "Entrepreneur of the Year" competition.

For more information on our company, our solutions or our products, visit the I.R.I.S. website at <http://www.irislink.com>.

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