

Adobe® InCopy® CS4 Scripting Read Me

This document contains information about scripting in Adobe InCopy CS4, including:

- A summary of the InCopy CS4 scripting documentation (see [“InCopy Scripting Documentation” on page 1](#)).
- Directions for running a script (see [“Running Scripts” on page 2](#)).
- A list of InCopy sample scripts and a brief description of each (see [“Sample Scripts” on page 2](#)).
- A list of known issues in InCopy CS4 scripting (see [“Known Issues Related to InCopy CS4 Scripting” on page 4](#)).

For more information on InCopy scripting, go to the InCopy scripting home page, <http://www.adobe.com/products/incopy/scripting/index.html>, or visit the InCopy Scripting User-to-User forum, <http://www.adobeforums.com>.

For late-breaking InCopy scripting news, see the updated version of this file on the InCopy scripting home page.

InCopy Scripting Documentation

The InCopy CS4 scripting documentation can be downloaded from the InCopy scripting home page (mentioned above). The scripting documentation set for InCopy CS4 comprises the following:

- *Adobe InCopy CS4 Scripting Guide* (AppleScript, JavaScript, and VBScript versions) — Includes a basic tutorial on InCopy scripting, then discusses advanced InCopy scripting topics. All tutorial scripts shown are included in a single ZIP archive, so there is no need to copy and paste scripts from the PDF. (Most scripts shown in the text are incomplete fragments demonstrating a specific property, method, or technique.)
- *JavaScript Tools and Features* — Covers using the ExtendScript Toolkit for JavaScript development, creating user interfaces with ScriptUI, using the File and Folder objects, and other features specific to the ExtendScript language (Adobe’s version of JavaScript).

There is no *Scripting Reference* PDF for this release. Instead, use the object-model viewer included with your script-editing application (as described in *Adobe InCopy CS4 Scripting Guide*).

InCopy sample scripts are installed by default, and appear in the Scripts panel (Window > Automation > Scripts).

Installing the scripting documentation scripts

In addition to the sample scripts, all scripts shown (in fragmentary form) in the scripting documentation are available for download from the InCopy scripting home page.

Once you download the script ZIP archive, follow the steps below to extract the scripts from the archive. Once you extract the files, move the folder(s) for the language(s) you want to work with (AppleScript, JavaScript, or VBScript) to your Scripts Panel folder. (For more on installing scripts, see the *Adobe InCopy CS4 Scripting Guide*.)

Windows

With a standard Windows installation, you can extract the ZIP files using the Windows Extraction Wizard, as described below. If you installed a third-party ZIP application (like WinZip), you may have a customized menu instead of the menu items listed below.

1. Copy the ZIP file to your hard drive.
2. Right-click the file, then choose Extract All...
3. When presented with the Extraction Wizard dialog, click Next.
4. Choose a location for your files or use the default location (the current directory).
5. When the extraction is complete, click Finish.

Mac OS

1. Copy the ZIP file to your hard drive.
2. Double-click the ZIP file.

Running Scripts

To run a script, double-click the script name in the Scripts panel.

On Windows, you can run VBScripts (file extension `.vbs`) or JavaScripts (file extension `.jsx`). On Mac OS, you can run AppleScripts (file extension `.applescript`) or JavaScripts.

Sample Scripts

InCopy CS4 includes the sample scripts listed below.

Script name	For more information, see page ...
CreateCharacterStyle	3
FindChangeByList	3
SortParagraphs	4
TabUtilities	4

Make sure you save your work before running a sample script for the first time.

Before using sample scripts on important InCopy documents, experiment with them so you understand what they do

Script Descriptions

This section includes a brief description of each example script.

CreateCharacterStyle

Defines a complete character style based on the selected text.

Demonstrates:

- Processing objects in the selection.
- Creating a character style.
- Getting text-formatting attributes from a text object.
- Filling in character-style properties.

ExportAllStories

Exports all stories in a document to a series of text files.

Demonstrates:

- Exporting text.
- JavaScript file/folder objects and methods (JavaScript only).
- Creating file names based on ID attributes.
- Creating a user interface.

FindChangeByList

Performs a series of common text find/change operations by reading a tab-delimited text file.

For more information, see the start of the script or the start of the `FindChangeList.txt` file. You can add your own find/change operations to the `FindChangeList.txt` file or create your own file.

Demonstrates:

- Working with files and folders.
- Finding a file/folder relative to the active script.
- Using the text find/change methods (text, grep, and glyph).
- Reading tab-delimited text data from a text file.

SortParagraphs

Sorts the paragraphs in the selection alphabetically.

Demonstrates:

- Text-object move method.
- Simple bubble sort.

TabUtilities

Applies tab stops and indents to the selected text.

Demonstrates:

- Working with tab stops and indents.
- Getting page positions from text objects.
- Getting the text column containing the cursor.
- Creating a user interface.

Known Issues Related to InCopy CS4 Scripting

JavaScript start-up scripts

User start-up scripts should be placed in the InCopy start-up scripts location (where they will run once each time the application is launched), not in the ExtendScript engine initialization scripts location (where they will run each time an engine is initialized).

To run scripts when InCopy starts, put them in the Startup Scripts folder inside the Scripts folder in your InCopy folder. (If this folder does not already exist, create it.)

Cannot set the midpoint location for an opacity gradient stop

If you try to set the midpoint location for the first `opacity gradient stop` in a `gradient feather settings` object, InCopy returns an error.

Scripts run outside InCopy cannot create persistent ExtendScript engines (JavaScript only)

As discussed in Chapter 2, "Scripting," of *Adobe InCopy CS4 Scripting Guide: JavaScript*, ExtendScript scripts can create persistent instances of the ExtendScript engine. Functions and variables defined in the persistent engine can be used by other scripts that execute in that engine. To create a persistent ExtendScript engine, however, the script must be run from the InCopy Scripts panel; running the script from the ExtendScript Toolkit or via BridgeTalk from another application will not create the persistent engine.

Event listeners added or removed during event propagation are not handled according to the W3C specification

The *W3C Document Object Model (DOM) Level 2 Events Specification* (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/DOM-Level-2-Events/Overview.html>) states the following:

“If an EventListener is added to an EventTarget while it is processing an event, it will not be triggered by the current actions but may be triggered during a later stage of event flow, such as the bubbling phase.”

And:

“If an EventListener is removed from an EventTarget while it is processing an event, it will not be triggered by the current actions. EventListeners can never be invoked after being removed.”

In InCopy scripting, event listeners added to an event target during event propagation are not triggered for the duration of the event. Event listeners removed from an event target during event propagation are triggered by the event (i.e., the event listeners are removed when event processing is complete,).

The ExtendScript toolkit does not show a list of InCopy scripts (Mac OS only)

By default, the ExtendScript Toolkit does not specify a target application when it starts. This means the list of available scripts in the Scripts panel (in the ExtendScript Toolkit, not in InCopy) is not populated with available InCopy scripts. Set the target application to InCopy, and the ExtendScript Toolkit populates the Scripts panel.