



# Why are you still using a USB cable with your scanner?

When was the last time you connected a printer to your computer with a USB cable?  
If you can remember the last time, then why do you still do it with your document scanner?

*Simply put, **Printing** puts dots on the page, **Scanning** takes them off; they have a lot in common so keep this comparison in mind.*

Document solutions are rapidly moving towards three key trends:

1. Cloud based applications and storage,
2. Browser-based applications versus desktop client or utilities
3. Mobile devices that can wirelessly access, control and view scanned documents.

USB-connected scanners do not leverage these key trends, in fact they hinder them.

So why are you clinging to an antiquated way of connecting and communicating with your scanner and missing out on these modern-day advantages?

## TWAIN Direct solves this problem!

With TWAIN Direct you can securely communicate wirelessly with your scanner and without the cumbersome and complicated need for PC or hardware drivers.

You have direct access to your documents and processes via the cloud. Your scanned documents are easily incorporated into Browser-based applications and services.

Mobile devices can wirelessly access your scanner and receive scanned documents.

TWAIN Direct also eliminates the need for client-based hardware drivers; now that's a welcome change!

If this sounds a lot like the advantages you experienced when you cut the cord on your printer and went to wireless, you're getting the point.

Ready to  
cut the cord  
on your scanner?





## NEXT GENERATION IMAGE ACQUISITION TECHNOLOGY

### What is TWAIN Direct?

The TWAIN Working Group has developed a new image acquisition technology and standard for application developers and hardware manufacturers which provides a simple and easy platform to acquire documents from network-based scanning devices. TWAIN Direct offers a flexible platform for quick and simple integration from both a hardware and application standpoint. As IoT-based products increase, integration and universal operation becomes a challenge. With TWAIN Direct, you can easily deploy an integrated hardware and software solution with minimal development time, without the need for proprietary device drivers, not to mention an agnostic platform for device compatibility.

### What does TWAIN Direct do?

TWAIN Direct allows software developers to maintain a universal integration to discover and drive network-connected image acquisition devices. With TWAIN Direct, applications can now connect to any network scanning device to acquire a complete PDF/raster document versus scanned image data which requires further image processing via an external application. This universal platform eliminates the need for any proprietary device drivers to be installed on a client while completely operating the device from web-based applications, using a common user interface and device feature set. TWAIN Direct makes scanned documents immediately available to any local client or cloud-based application, regardless of the operating system platform. Furthermore, the development and support of scanner drivers is a significant resource and cost for hardware developers and involves the majority of customer service calls. Drivers are no longer a factor with TWAIN Direct!

### How do applications benefit from TWAIN Direct?

While the IoT market continues to grow, especially within the document imaging and management space, testing and certifying compatible products is challenging and time consuming. With TWAIN Direct, developers only need to incorporate the pre-built code into their application which will allow any TWAIN Direct enabled hardware to be operated. In addition, TWAIN Direct provides an actual Raster PDF document which eliminates the need for a capture application to convert scanned image data into a file, which is how documents are currently acquired.

### BENEFITS OF TWAIN DIRECT

- Driverless Network Scanning
- Universal Hardware Support (No more compatibility testing)
- Common User Experience, regardless of brand
- Multi-Platform Support (Windows, IOS, ANDROID, MAC / Mobile or PC Device)
- Secure & Encrypted Communications
- Transfer fully formed PDF Files
- Embedded Metadata
- Simple Pre-Built Code for both Hardware & Software Vendors

### TWAIN Bridge / Side Car

TWAIN Direct is designed to operate network-based devices. USB-connected scanners can be TWAIN Direct enabled by connecting to a front-end PC running an application called TWAIN Bridge which makes the scanner appear to the network as a fully accessible TWAIN Direct network scanner. As another option, such a PC and TWAIN Bridge can be miniaturized into a small Raspberry-Pi-like device called TWAIN Sidecar to connect a USB scanner and again make it appear as a fully accessible TWAIN Direct network device.

### Getting Started with TWAIN Direct!

TWAIN Direct will officially launch in Fall of 2019. However, the TWAIN Working Group has already completed its development of the TWAIN Direct standard for early adopters. To gain early access to the current TWAIN Direct sample code and support, you need to be a member of the TWAIN Working Group as either a Board or Associate member. Not only will you be provided with everything you need to develop your own TWAIN Direct application or hardware device, you will have the opportunity to provide input and suggestions for the ongoing development of the TWAIN Direct standard.

For more information on the TWAIN Direct standard, please visit [twaindirect.org](http://twaindirect.org)

To Become a member, visit [twain.org/membership](http://twain.org/membership) or contact Erin Dempsey at (910) 574-6631 or [erin.dempsey@twain.org](mailto:erin.dempsey@twain.org)