



How we did what we did in ABBYY

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ABBYY[®]

DEFINING RECOGNITION™

The Beginning



- ABBYY Was founded in 1989 by **David Yang** in Moscow, Russia
- Today David is the Chairman of the Board
- First name of the company was “Bit Software”

1989

BIT Software, Inc.

1998

ABBYY
SOFTWARE
HOUSE

2008

ABBYY®

ABBYY Map



More than 1000 people, HQ and R&D in Moscow,
12+ offices around the world

They [natural philosophers] learned that reason only perceives that which it produces after its own design; that it must not be content to follow, as it were, in the leading-strings of nature, but must proceed in advance with principles of judgement according to unvarying laws, and compel nature to reply its questions. For accidental observations, made according to no preconceived plan, cannot be united under a necessary law.

Immanuel Kant, "The Critique of Pure Reason"

- **Principles of**
- **Integrity**
- **Purposfulness**
- **Adaptivity**

Integrity

- **Means that we consider an object as a whole made up of interrelated parts. The parts of an object are bound by certain relationships and are interpreted only within the context of our assumptions about the whole object. In other words, we advance a hypothesis about the nature of the object.**

Purposefulness

- **Any interpretation of data has a purpose. Whenever we are contemplating an object and are trying to identify it, we are advancing hypotheses and this is a goal-oriented process, not just passive gathering of information.**

Adaptivity

- **We are capable of self-learning. We remember the information we gather, systematize this information, and re-use it for solving similar tasks.**

FineReader 1.0

- **1993**
- **Feature based, trainable**
- **Development supported by current sales**

History

- **FineReader 2.0, (1995) Total redesign, feature based, IPA technology**
- **FineReader 3.0 (1996) Added Form processing. Sales to international markets**
- **FineReader 4.0 (1998) Vastly improved, added handprint recognition.**
- **FlexiCapture technology (1998)**
- **New document analysis - ADRT (2006-2007)**
- **FineReader 9.0 (2007) added CJK, Thai, Hebrew, etc**

What made us successful

- **Built a barrier**
- **Relied on ourselves only**
- **Strong team**
- **Allowed experimentation: negative result is a result**
- **Invested heavily in R&D**
- **Defined long-term goals**

