Pocket PC 2002 and Handheld PC Browser Comparison

There are two browsers available for devices that are built using the Windows CE operating system. The Pocket PC software platform uses one and the Handheld PC platform uses the other. The main reasons for using Pocket Internet Explorer for the Pocket PC were its smaller software footprint and adaptability to the smaller screen size. Internet Explorer version 4.02 for Handheld PC 2000 is a port of Internet Explorer 4.0 from the desktop PC. The functionality was an appropriate fit for the half and full screens found on Handheld PCs. The table below identifies the capabilities and differences of these two browsers. The new Pocket PC 2002 features are highlighted in the far right column with bold, italic text.

	IE 4.02 for H/PC 2000	Pocket IE for Pocket PC 2002
HTML	4.0 VRML viewer, tables, forms, frames, and MSXML supported.	3.2 Tables, forms, frames, and MSXML supported. No floating frames. No VRML. (New HTML Tags: DIV/SPAN, CAPTION ALIGN, DIV ALIGN, TABLE ALIGN, IMG HSPACE, IMG ALIGN, BODY VLINK, BODY ALINK, BR CLEAR, BASEFONT COLOR, TH COLSPAN)
WAP	No	WML, WBXML, WBMP, WSP, WMLSCRIPT
cHTML	No	Yes
DHTML	IE4 DOM	Only InnerHTML/InnerText. No DHTML DOM
Protocols	HTTP1.1 (http, https), FTP, file://, NNTP, OEM and user can supply others via URLMon interface.	HTTP1.1 (http, https), HTTP 1.1 compression, FTP, FTPIR, NNTP, file://, AvantGo, and OEM and user can supply others via URLMon interface
Scripting	JScript (superset of ECMA-262) No VBscript	Windows CE JScript 3.0 (ECMA-262 compliant) No support for Regular Expressions. No VBscript
ActiveX Controls	Downloadable and scriptable if compiled for the CPU on the device.	Yes. ActiveX Controls cannot be automatically downloaded but can be called if previously registered on the device. An ActiveX Control can now "fire" an "event" which can have JScript code attached to it (via a web page).
Downloading controls	Yes	No
XML support	Yes. Data islands not supported.	Yes. MSXML 2.5 Data islands supported. For more details view http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/dnppc2k/html/ppc_I.asp
Cascading style sheets	Yes	No
Font Downloading	Yes	No
Data binding	Yes	No
Java	Yes via 3rd parties such as Insignia Solutions, Kada Systems, and Wabasoft	Yes Via 3rd parties
File formats	GIF, JPEG, BMP, XBM, HTML, TXT, GIF89a (animated GIF) + many others	GIF, JPEG, BMP, XBM, PNG, HTML, TXT GIF89a format is displayed but without animation
Recording file formats	Many via MIME type handlers	WAV, WML, and others via MIME type handlers
User-Agent string	Mozilla/4.0 (compatible;	Mozilla/2.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.02; Windows CE; PPC; 240x320)

	MSIE 4.01; Windows 95)	
Cache	Yes	Yes
Subscriptions, offline browsing	Yes	Yes
Color /resolution	No limits	No limits
Auto-complete URL	Yes	Yes
Link highlighting	Underlined	Underlined
View HTML source	Save page as, then view	No (no Save As function)
Favorites	Yes	Yes
RSACi(Recreational Software Advisory Council on the Internet)	Yes	No
Multi-user	No	No
Input devices	Mouse, Touch, Keyboard	Touch, Keyboard
Cookies	Max number elements (4KB max each) set by registry, persistent to HDD	Max number elements (4KB max each) set by registry, persistent to HDD (users WININET)
User Authentication	Basic and NTLM supported, other methods supported via integration via SSPI. (Security Support Provider Interface)	Anonymous, Basic, NTLM. No support for Digest.
Security	Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) 2, SSL3, SGC (Server Gated Cryptography)	SSL2, SSL3, Private Communication Technology (PCT) 1.0, SGC
Newsgroups	No	No
CDF	Yes	No
MIME type helpers	Many, installable	Supports application and pluggable MIME Helpers and Filters
Media services (Dshow support)	Yes	No
Printing	Yes	No
Web Server	Yes, only via 3rd parties like Cambridge Computer Corporation and Intrinsyc	Yes. Included in Pocket PC 2002 SDK

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