

The PDF Association's ISO Liaison

The PDF Association maintains a category A Liaison with ISO TC 171 and ISO TC 130 and thereby may actively participate in the development of all PDF related ISO standards. By doing so the PDF Association contributes continuously to the quality of PDF standards, and increases the likelihood of their broad adoption.

The PDF Association and the PDF/A Competence Center played an important part in the successful worldwide adoption of the PDF/A archiving standard. Today, the PDF Association and its PDF/UA Competence Center are heavily involved in promoting worldwide adoption of PDF/UA, the new ISO Standard for accessible PDF technology.

Competence Centers

The PDF Association currently hosts the following Competence Centers:

- **PDF Competence Center:** Focused on PDF standardized by ISO 32000, the PDF Competence Center is a starting-point for new PDF developers.
- **PDF/A Competence Center:** Founded in 2006 the PDF/A Competence Center was the first Competence Center. It focuses on ISO 19005, and works on PDF technology in the context of electronic document archiving.
- **PDF/UA Competence Center:** PDF/UA is the common name for ISO 14289. Published in July 2012, this latest International Standard defines technical requirements for creation and processing of accessible PDF documents.
- **PDF/VT Competence Center:** Focused on ISO 16612, the PDF/VT Competence Center addresses needs specific to variable and transactional applications in the printing and output management industry.

PDF events and resources

The PDF Association regularly organizes PDF events including international conferences, highly-focused seminars and webinars and publishes expert and educational content on- and offline.

Find valuable PDF resources!

Members and non-members alike will always find the PDF Association website, www.pdfa.org, a good place to start. Members of the PDF Association additionally benefit from a network of renowned experts, extensive internal resources and active collaboration in the PDF Association.

Top five reasons to join PDF Association

- **Research:** Up to the minute news, research, presentations.
- **Inspiration:** Case studies, webinars, how-to guides, advice from the field and more.
- **Opportunity:** A thriving community of developers, industry experts and implementers.
- **Discounts:** Members save big on PDF Association education, events, literature and more.
- **Expertise:** It's the industry association of the PDF electronic document world.

To join as a business or organization involved in PDF or as an individual member just email info@pdfa.org for more information or go to www.pdfa.org/join for details and membership application forms.

About PDF Association

The PDF Association promotes the adoption and implementation of International Standards for PDF technology. The activities of the PDF Association include education and promotion of ISO 32000 (the international standard for PDF), as well as PDF/A, PDF/E, PDF/UA, PDF/VT and PDF/X. We work closely with ISO and AIIM on the development of future PDF standards. If you want to learn about PDF standards, PDF development or participate in the future of PDF, please get in touch.



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PDF Association

Promoting ISO Standards for PDF Technology

- **Discover in-depth technical resources**
- **Discuss with international PDF experts**
- **Go inside upcoming ISO Standards**
- **Promote your PDF solutions**

What is the PDF Association?

The PDF Association promotes Open Standards-based electronic document implementations using PDF technology through education, expertise and shared experience for stakeholders worldwide. Founded in 2006 as the PDF/A Competence Center, the PDF Association now exists to promote the adoption and implementation of all International Standards for PDF technology.

Developers use the PDF Association to both learn and share knowledge and experience with PDF technology.

Decision-makers use the PDF Association to help them understand the role and capabilities of ISO 32000 (PDF) and PDF's subset standards in ECM and other electronic document applications.

End-users benefit from improved reliability, quality, functionality and interoperability in their experience of electronic documents.

Why PDF Association?

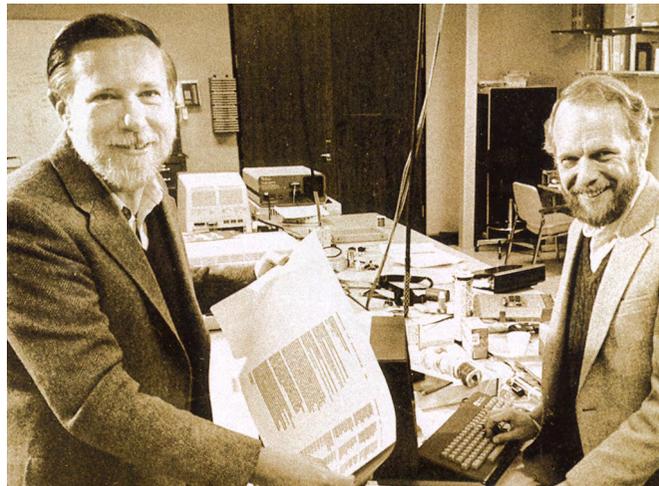
As “digital paper”, the Portable Document Format (PDF) is the de facto standard for electronic documents worldwide. No other technology comes close to PDF in both operational flexibility and marketplace acceptance.

Any technology that's accepted to the extent that it can serve as a broad-based, universally accepted standard would have to be relatively old; PDF was first introduced in 1993. The “PDF Reference”, the document that defines PDF, has changed and improved over time. As a result, not all PDFs are created equal, and not all PDF software is equal in terms of its ability to process PDF.

Adobe Systems transferred management of the PDF format to the Technical Committees of the ISO in 2008. It's appropriate that an independent PDF Association promotes understanding and adoption of International Standards for PDF by vendors, customers and governments.

The Portable Document Format

In 1991, Adobe Systems co-founder John Warnock announced “Camelot”, a system that evolved into the Portable Document Format (PDF) first released in 1993. In the same year, Adobe Systems openly published the PDF specification for any developer to use and decided to give away Adobe Reader for free. PDF remained an Adobe Systems proprietary format until it was officially released as an international standard and published by the International Organization for Standardization as ISO 32000-1 on July 1, 2008.



Adobe founders John Warnock, Chuck Geschke

20 years later PDF is everywhere

- First released in 1993, PDF became an international open standard (ISO 32000) in 2008
- Six ISO standards for PDF have been published: since 2001: PDF/X, PDF/A, PDF/E, PDF, PDF/VT, PDF/UA
- PDF is a national standard in dozens of countries
- More than 2,000 vendors worldwide offer PDF-based solutions including PDF creation, server technology, plug-ins, consulting, training, and support tools.
- Hundreds of billions of PDF files are in existence today in every business and government organization worldwide.

PDF Association's member benefits

Developers, service providers, industry experts and institutions benefit from membership in the PDF Association:

- **Show your PDF Expertise:** Adding the PDF Association logo to display your membership in the international PDF Association and of the Competence Centers in which your expertise lies. We also offer speaking slots for PDF experts on several events and targeting different industries.
- **Extend your Visibility:** Our web site www.pdfa.org is well frequented by professionals looking for PDF related topics and accordingly well ranked by search engines. By adding your company description, contact information and a link you will benefit from improved visibility. Additionally you may list your company's PDF-related products and services and contribute press releases, case studies, articles or white papers.
- **Marketing Opportunities:** Participate free of charge or share costs via the PDF Association's worldwide trade show presences. If you choose to organize your own in-person and online seminars the PDF Association's member services team will help you to organize the event. By announcing your event or webinar on pdfa.org you can also gain additional attention.
- **Be Among the First to Know:** As a member you have access to internal PDF Association online resources, including papers, webinars, presentations and more. Additionally you have access to the PDF Association's intranet containing valuable internal information for members including draft versions of upcoming PDF standards developed by ISO Technical Committees. Members also get substantial discount on the PDF Association's events.
- **Influence Development and Promotional Efforts:** By joining a Technical Working Group you can add your voice to influence upcoming standards. Participating in a Marketing Working Group to have an impact on the marketplace and help PDF standards adoption.
- **Network Internationally and Locally:** In the PDF Association leading international experts join to discuss PDF topics and bring forward innovation and standardization. On the other hand country chapters focus on regional activities like trade shows, seminars and local meetings.