100th German Library Day Steps into the Future with PDF/A

(Berlin). When everyone comes together June 7-10 at Berlin's Estrel Convention Center to celebrate the 100th German Library Day's Libraries for the Future, the PDF/A Competence Center will be center-stage. There, more than 3,000 librarians from all provinces will exchange experiences and learn about new trends and developments in librarianship, including PDF/A, which has established itself gradually as the preferred archival format. PDF/A, the ISO 19005 standard for long-term archiving in PDF format, is increasingly used in libraries, both for digital documents and legacy content conversion. The PDF/A Competence Center will host a booth (booth 14 b) where visitors can learn about legacy content conversion, the metadata contained in the PDF/A standard and other relevant topics, as well as information about PDF/A-2.

PDF/A-2 includes the powerful JPEG2000 compression method, permits the assembly of of PDF/A files into PDF Collections, and adds support for Layers and advanced Object Level XMP metadata.

Representatives from the PDF/A Competence Center, including Hans-Joachim Hübner from SRZ and Thomas Zellmann from LuraTech will be on hand to answer questions and provide free material about PDF/A and what it can do for your organization. The literature from some member companies, including callas software GmbH and LuraTech Europe GmbH, will also be available.

More and more companies and government agencies are taking advantage of this standardized format for document archiving. PDF provides fidelity to the original document's layout, even for searchable text documents produced by OCR processes. For example, the Austrian National Library prefers that files be submitted in PDF/A format and in university libraries PDF/A is quite frequently used for graduate and doctoral work on Web servers, such as at the University of Potsdam. Additionally, there are international recommendations, including those

from the Library of Congress in the United States and the Centre for Long-term Digital Preservation in Sweden.

About PDF/A

ISO 19005 (PDF/A) defines requirements for documents suitable for archiving using on the popular and ubiquitous PDF format. The International Standard for archive-ready PDF provides requirements and specifications that ensure the long-term readability and full-text search functionality of documents regardless of the application software and operating system in which they were originally produced. The advantages of PDF/A are such that only 5 years after ratification the Standard has already replaced TIFF as the preferred archiving format in numerous international governmental organizations and industries.

About the PDF/A Competence Center

The PDF/A Competence Center was established as an international association in 2006 to promote understanding and implementation of PDF/A. In less than three years, over 100 companies and individual experts from over 20 countries joined as dues-paying members.

The objective of the association is to promote the exchange of information and experience in the field of long-term archiving in accordance with ISO 19005 (PDF/A). The management board is comprised of executives from callas software, Gmbh, Appligent Document Solutions Inc., Compart AG, Crawford Technologies Inc., intarsys consulting GmbH and LuraTech Europe GmbH. The executive chairman is Olaf Drümmer, Managing Director of callas software GmbH. Duff Johnson, CEO of Appligent Document Solutions Inc. is the executive vice chairman.