

## **The Italian Chapter of the PDF/A Competence Center founded**

**(Segrate)** The first meeting of Italian members of the PDF/A Competence Center took place on Monday, February 8, 2010. More than ten companies, also including some well-wishers who adopted the PDF/A as a standard for long-term document archiving, met with Harald Grumser, Chairman of the Competence Center, Thomas Zellmann, Managing Director, and Olaf Drümmer, Member of the Board, and founded the Italian Chapter of this organization. The official announcement came on February 9 during the 15th edition of the Digital Printing Forum at the NH Hotel in Milano 2, Segrate.

The „PDF/A Competence Center Italia“ is born as a local extension of the International PDF/A Competence Center, an association founded in Germany in 2006 with the objective of promoting the exchange of information and experience in the field of long-term archiving in accordance with ISO 19005 (PDF/A). Founded by Callas Software, Compart, LuraTech Europe, PDF Tools and PDFlib, the group now includes 100 members from all over the world, 8 of which are based in Italy.

Bridge Technologies, C.M. Trading, E-Mission, EDEX, Intellidoc, Soluzionisubito, Stabilimenti Tipografici, TechnoSolutions and some other supporters who adopted PDF/A as standard for long-term archiving currently represent the Competence Center in Italy and will offer several services, including the organization of workshops and events, the organization of workgroups taking part in international committees for the definition of standards, and the „evangelization“ of the market.

**The "PDF/A Competence Center Italia" plans to become the meeting and reference point in Italy for technology vendors, system integrators, service companies, public companies and institutions interested in the distribution and use of this standard.** It therefore represents a new and effective support to the widespread adoption of quality in digital documents and, more generally, of quality and standardization in the field of communication. The assembly also elected

Francesco Tito from Bridge Technologies, one of the very first companies to adopt the PDF/A standard in Italy, as Chairman of the Italian Chapter. The Italian Chapter already plans some promotional activities that will be developed during 2010, one being the participation in the twelfth edition of Inprinting, an event dedicated to digital printing and business communication that will take place in Milan from May 12 to 15, 2010.

### **About PDF/A**

The ISO 19005 standard (PDF/A) defines requirements for creating documents suitable for archiving based on the widely available PDF format. The standard specifies in detail what content is allowed and what is not. These and other specifications are intended to ensure long-term readability of the documents regardless of the application software and operating system in which they were originally produced. The advantages of PDF/A such as full-text search capabilities have led it to already replace TIFF as the preferred archiving format in numerous international governmental organizations as well as in private industries.

### **About the PDF/A Competence Center**

The PDF/A Competence Center was established as an international association in 2006. 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 composed of executives from callas software GmbH, Compart AG, intarsys consulting GmbH, LuraTech Europe GmbH, PDF Tools AG (CH), PDFlib GmbH and SEAL Systems AG. Within less than three years, more than 100 companies and various experts from about 20 countries have joined the PDF/A Competence Center. The executive chairman is Harald Grumser, CEO of Compart AG, Dr. Hans Baerfuss, CEO of PDF Tools AG, Switzerland, is the executive vice-chairman.

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