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First International PDF/A Conference in Amsterdam

Exclusive event with high-caliber speakers and well-known users from the US and Europe

(Berlin) The PDF/A Competence Center is holding its first PDF/A Conference at the international level. On April 10th-11th, 2008, the "Who's Who" of PDF/A specialists from around the globe, for example Adobe Systems Inc., will meet in Amsterdam at the Hilton Hotel and share their knowledge through lectures and keynote speeches. In addition, the organizers have succeeded in attracting several large user organizations to the event, including the European Patent Office. Participants will benefit from presentations that are divided into various tracks and can be selected according to their relevance and interest. An accompanying exhibition rounds out the complete spectrum of information being presented.

Cost of registration for the event is € 870, with a discounted fee of € 720 for registrations received by February 15, 2008. Detailed information and registration forms can be found at www.pdfa.org.

Harald Grumser, a board member of the PDF/A Competence Center, sees the event as a must for all those who have to consider the future security of electronic archiving for their documents. "The PDF/A Conference offers the participants concentrated information for every level of knowledge. The multi-faceted program covers all aspects of PDF/A. Whether you are looking for basic information or special expertise, if you are a developer or an integrator looking for detailed technical information, if you are in the public administration sector, a bank, an insurance company, industry or a library - this is the event to find the information you need."

The PDF/A Competence Center has attracted experts such as Leonard Rosenthol, the Technical Standards Evangelist at Adobe Systems Inc., and PDF architect Dr. Jim King, as well as other PDF/A experts to share their knowledge in the technical track. They will make their contributions in the sessions on the first day, following the keynote speeches by Rory Staunton, Managing Director of Strategy Partners, and Stephen Levenson, US District Courts and convener of the ISO PDF/A committee. The sessions are

divided into a track for basic information on PDF/A, one for "advanced" participants, as well as a technical track for developers, integrators and IT specialists. During the breaks there will be an opportunity to visit the accompanying exhibition, which includes presentations of PDF/A products by Beta Systems, DETEC, DocuCom, icon Systemhaus, SEAL Systems and others.

The second day of the conference will open with a keynote speech by Dr. Jim King. The day focuses primarily on practical uses and is divided into tracks for different sectors, e.g. archives / libraries / public administration, engineering / manufacturing / construction, and finally business-to-customer, such as banks, insurance companies, and telecommunications providers. The sessions will include a case study by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of the Netherlands in The Hague) about its PDF/A project. Another presentation by the electrical engineering company ABB will explain that organization's use of PDF/A. The afternoon is dedicated to user experiences, including Airbus and the European Patent Office. "The user presentations from the various sectors prove that PDF/A format is becoming more and more established. These real-life examples clearly show the benefits gained by the use of PDF/A," explained Mr. Grumser.

The conference will conclude with a panel discussion moderated by Harald Grumser and Olaf Drümmer, both management board members of the PDF/A Competence Center.

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. This and other specifications are intended to ensure the long-term readability of documents regardless of the application software and operating system in which they were originally produced. Experts predict that the designation of PDF/A as an ISO standard will promote the popularity of that format, and advantages such as full-text search capabilities will lead to it replacing TIFF in the near future.

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 Systemhaus GmbH, intarsys consulting GmbH, LuraTech Europe GmbH, PDF Tools AG (CH) and PDFlib GmbH. More than fifty companies in over a dozen countries have joined the PDF/A Competence Center within the first year. The executive chairman is Thomas Zellmann, a managing partner of LuraTech. Hans Baerfuss, CEO of PDF Tools AG, Switzerland, is the executive vice chairman.

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