



PDF/A

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Long term electronic preservation Use of PDF (PDF/A) Scope

- ◆ International Standard specifies the use of the Portable Document Format (PDF)
- ◆ Long term preservation of black and white and color compound documents as electronic data
- ◆ Compound documents may contain combinations of character, raster, vector and other data



Scope Continued

- ◆ This International Standard also specifies methods for creation from these data of an exact visual reproduction of the document as it appeared at the time it was submitted for preservation
- ◆ It also enables the preservation and retrieval of appropriate metadata



History and Background

- ◆ Federal courts began imaging for Central Violations Bureau in 1993 in TIFF
- ◆ Short retention schedule on tickets and citations (5 years)
- ◆ National system allowed for electronic shipment of calendars and tickets
- ◆ Operational savings file pulls and shipping



History and Background

Continued

- ◆ Maritime Asbestos cases 1995
- ◆ Format important and retention long-term
- ◆ PDF chosen
- ◆ Born electronic
- ◆ Born paper

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History and Background

Continued

- ◆ New York Southern Bankruptcy Pilot 1996
- ◆ Multi-state filings
- ◆ Sophisticated Court and Bar
- ◆ Seven plus years of filings now in PDF



Problem

- ◆ Court documents protect citizens rights
- ◆ Access is assured in trial courts for 20 to 40 years for the Judiciary
- ◆ Court decisions are permanent records held until the end of the republic by NARA
- ◆ Document format conveys critical information, must be rendered accurately



Long Term in Internet Years

- ◆ Current workstation application model is in 3 year cycles
- ◆ Electronic paper emulation
- ◆ Minimal Migration
- ◆ Accurate, consistent and predictable rendering



PDF Today

- ◆ NARA announcement March 31, 2003
 - PDF/A defining future technical standards
- ◆ Australian Victorian Electronic Records Strategy
- ◆ Food and Drug Administration
 - Pharmaceutical and Biotech

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PDF/A

- ◆ Model is PDF/X
- ◆ PDF/X (ISO 15930)
- ◆ Joint committee- AIIM International (the Association for Information and Image Management, International)
- ◆ NPES (NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies)



Purpose

- ◆ PDF for the long term storage of multi-page documents
- ◆ May contain a mixture of text, raster images and vector graphics



Purpose Continued

- ◆ Address the features and requirements that must be supported by reading devices that will be used to retrieve and render the archived documents
- ◆ This initial version is to emulate static paper with the added need to include electronic annotations, electronic signatures, marginalia, approvals, etc.



Metadata Enabled

- ◆ Minimizing the required information but ensuring that metadata capability is versatile enough to accommodate a wide variety of user needs
- ◆ Recognizing the need to index, inter-relate, and search such archived records

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Not Included

- ◆ This standard does not address the media used to record the electronic data or the associated requirements for its storage and/or maintenance
- ◆ Such requirements are addressed by other ISO technical committees and International Standards



Future

- ◆ Products will be developed based on PDF/A, such as readers (including viewers) and writers of PDF/A files based on published 1.4 PDF
- ◆ Products will incorporate various capabilities to prepare, interpret and process conforming files based on the application needs as perceived by the suppliers of the products.
- ◆ Conforming reader must be able to read and appropriately process all files conforming to a specified conformance level



More Information

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