

The PDF Association's ISO liaison

To help drive PDF standards development and adoption, the PDF Association maintains a category A liaison with ISO's TC 171 and TC 130. This relationship allows experts from member companies to participate in the development of PDF-related ISO standards.

The PDF Association's PDF/A Competence Center played an important part in fostering worldwide adoption of the PDF/A archiving standard.

Today, the PDF Association operates a variety of working groups and other initiatives to promote utilization of ISO standards for PDF technology.

Working groups

PDF Association working groups develop technical and application notes, best practice documents and more.

- **PDF Technical Working Group (TWG):** Focused on ISO 32000, this group is a starting-point for new PDF developers and provides a forum for discussing new features and improvements to the format.
- **PDF/A TWG:** Founded in 2006, the PDF/A Competence Center was the forerunner of the PDF Association. This TWG continues to focus on PDF technology in the archival context.
- **PDF/UA TWG:** Promoting accessibility via adoption of PDF/UA (ISO 14289), this TWG's products include the *Matterhorn Protocol*, the *PDF/UA Reference Suite* and *PDF/UA in a Nutshell*.
- **PDF/VT TWG:** This group develops application notes and best practices for variable and transactional data applications in printing and output management.
- **Next Generation PDF TWG:** Focusing on integrating web technology with PDF, this group developed *Deriving HTML from PDF* and addresses opportunities for specification development in this area.

- **PDF Validation TWG:** Created to supervise development of the industry-supported veraPDF PDF/A validator, this TWG continues to address validation questions for the PDF specification.



About the PDF Association

The PDF Association (pdfa.org) promotes adoption and implementation of ISO standards for PDF technology, including ISO 32000, subset standards and industry best-practices. We work closely with the respective ISO working groups to maintain existing and develop new PDF standards.

Developers: 4 reasons to join

The meeting-place for PDF developers:

- **Technical Working Groups:** technical documentation and workshops on PDF standards.
- **Inspiration and opportunity:** monitor and propose new specifications and ancillary best-practices.
- **ISO standards:** access to drafts under development, and the opportunity to participate in the process.
- **Networking:** At the PDF Association, the future of the format is in your hands and its potential is yours to find.

Vendors: 4 reasons to join

The industry association for PDF technology publishers:

- **Reputation:** showcase your commitment to ISO-standardized PDF technology.
- **Promotion:** a members-only venue to promote products, services, case studies and more
- **Business intelligence:** industry information, research, news and networking.
- **Thought leadership:** express your vision on pdfa.org and at industry events.

How to join

For details and application forms, email info@pdfa.org or visit pdfa.org/become-a-member.



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PDF Association

Promoting ISO standards for PDF technology

■ Promote your PDF solutions

■ Influence and track PDF standards development

■ Access in-depth technical resources

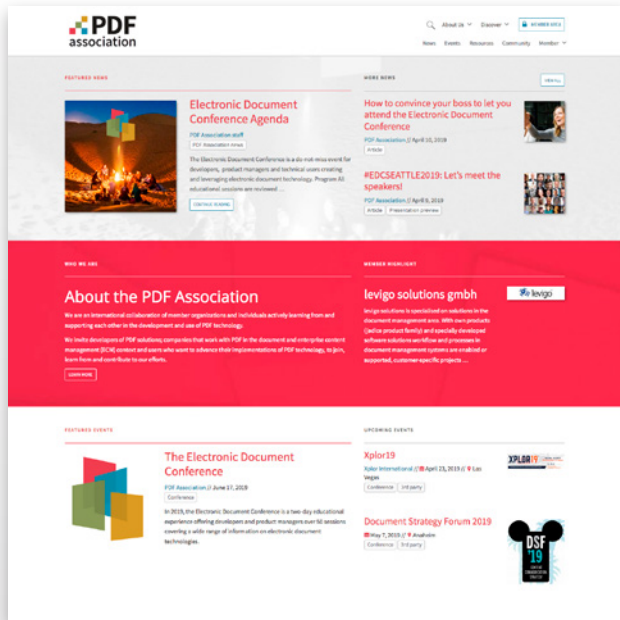
■ Collaborate with PDF experts worldwide



Our purpose

Founded in 2006 as the PDF/A Competence Center, the PDF Association promotes open standards-based digital document implementations using PDF technology through education, expertise and shared experience.

- **Developers** use the PDF Association to share their knowledge and experience with ISO-standardized PDF technology.
- **Decision-makers** use the PDF Association to help them understand the role and capabilities of PDF and PDF's subset standards in ECM, CCM, manufacturing, printing, publishing, and other digital document applications.
- **Industry members** use the PDF Association to promote their products and services.



Why we need a PDF Association

Adobe transferred PDF to the ISO in 2008, but ISO committees write standards; they don't promote adoption.

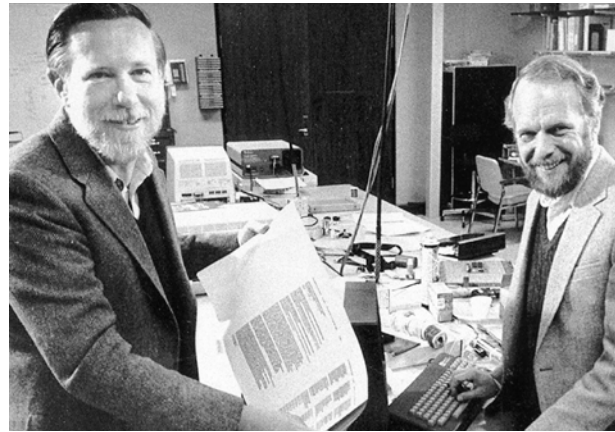
A global coalition of commercial and non-profit organizations, the PDF Association was created to help developers and users understand and leverage ISO-standardized PDF to improve reliability and flexibility in their use of digital documents.

The Portable Document Format

In 1991, Adobe Systems co-founder John Warnock announced "Camelot", a system that evolved into the Portable Document Format (PDF) introduced in 1993. That same year, Adobe published the PDF specification for any developer to use and made the Adobe Reader free.

Today, almost every computer, mobile device or printer includes the ability to display, create or edit PDF files.

The Portable Document Format (PDF) is the *de facto* standard for digital documents worldwide. No other technology comes close to PDF in marketplace acceptance.



Adobe founders John Warnock and Chuck Geschke

PDF standards

- PDF 1.7 became an ISO standard (ISO 32000-1) in 2008.
- Since 2001, five ISO-standardized subsets of PDF have been published: PDF/X, PDF/A, PDF/E, PDF/VT and PDF/UA.
- PDF 2.0 was published by ISO's TC 171 SC 2 WG 8 in 2017.
- PDF is a national standard in dozens of countries.

PDF is everywhere

- Today, trillions of PDF files exist across almost every business and government organization worldwide.
- PDF documents dominate critical communications such as contracts, invoices, reports, forms, and laws.
- Thousands of vendors worldwide offer PDF-based solutions including PDF viewing and creation tools, servers, plug-ins, cloud-based services, consulting, training and tools.

PDF Association member benefits

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

- **Showcase your PDF expertise:** Adding the PDF Association logo to your own marketing and promotional materials highlights commitment to best-practice.
- **Influence specification and best practice development:** Members-only resources, include Technical Working Groups, draft papers, surveys, presentations and more. By joining a Technical Working Group you can add your voice to influence upcoming standards and best-practice documents. Participating in a Marketing Working Group provides a means of collaboration with other industry members in developing end-user oriented assets.
- **Extend your visibility:** Our website (pdfa.org) is frequented by professionals looking for PDF-related information. Adding your company's information and links will improve your visibility. Members can list their products and services and add white-papers, articles, case studies and more.
- **Unique members-only marketing opportunities:** Participate in the PDF Association's worldwide conference and trade show presences with sponsorship options and reduced-cost tickets for employees, customers and contacts.
- **Be among the first to know:** The PDF Association's intranet contains valuable information for members, including survey results, meeting minutes and drafts of upcoming ISO standards.
- **International networking:** PDF Association working groups and in-person events provide opportunities to interact with leading experts to discuss PDF topics, float new ideas and find inspiration for your own innovations.

