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Document management applications — Electronic document file format enhancement for accessibility — Part 1: Use of ISO 32000-1 (PDF/UA-1)

*Applications de la gestion de documents — Amélioration de
format du fichier du document électronique pour l'accessibilité —
Partie 1: Utilisation de l'ISO 32000-1 (PDF/UA-1)*



Reference number
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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Notation	2
5 Version identification	2
6 Conformance requirements	3
6.1 General	3
6.2 Conforming files	3
6.3 Conforming reader	3
6.4 Conforming assistive technology	3
7 File format requirements	4
7.1 General	4
7.2 Text	4
7.3 Graphics	5
7.4 Headings	5
7.5 Tables	6
7.6 Lists	6
7.7 Mathematical expressions	6
7.8 Page headers and footers	7
7.9 Notes and references	7
7.10 Optional content	7
7.11 Embedded files	7
7.12 Article threads	7
7.13 Digital signatures	7
7.14 Non-interactive forms	7
7.15 XFA	7
7.16 Security	8
7.17 Navigation	8
7.18 Annotations	8
7.19 Actions	9
7.20 XObjects	9
7.21 Fonts	10
8 Conforming reader requirements	12
8.1 General	12
8.2 Text	13
8.3 Tables	13
8.4 Optional content	13
8.5 File attachments and embedded files	13
8.6 Digital signatures	14
8.7 Actions	14
8.8 Metadata	14
8.9 Navigation	14
8.10 Annotations	14
9 AT requirements	15
9.1 General	15
9.2 Optional content	15
9.3 Navigation	15
Bibliography	16

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 14289-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 171, *Document management applications*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Application issues*.

ISO 14289 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Document management applications — Electronic document file format enhancement for accessibility*:

— *Part 1: Use of ISO 32000-1 (PDF/UA-1)*

This corrected version of ISO 14289-1:2012 incorporates the following corrections:

- in 7.3 (line after second bullet), bold type has been applied to the word “Caption”;
- in 7.3 (line before Note 1), “Table 333” has been replaced by “Table 323” and a reference to subclause 14.7.2 has been added;
- in 7.4.1 (second line), a reference to subclause 14.7.2 has been added;
- in 7.4.3 (first paragraph), the extra parenthesis after the word “system” has been removed;
- in 7.4.4 (first line), bold type has been applied to the letter “H”;
- in 7.6 (second bullet), **LI** has been replaced by **L**;
- in 7.17 (last paragraph), a reference to 7.7.2 has been added;
- in 7.18.2 (first line), 7.17.1 has been replaced by 7.18.1;
- in 8.4 (third bullet), the word “the” has been added before “value”;
- in 8.8 (note), a reference to 12.2 has been added.

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Introduction

PDF is a digital format for representing documents. PDF files may be created natively in PDF form, converted from other electronic formats, or digitized from paper. Businesses, governments, libraries, archives and other institutions and individuals around the world use PDF to represent considerable bodies of important information. These PDF files should be made accessible to users with disabilities.

The accessibility of a document is dependent on the inclusion of a variety of semantic information in a document such as (but not limited to) machine-recoverable text presented in a declared language, logical structure of content, and organization of that content in pages, sections and paragraphs. Semantic information can also contain a variety of descriptive metadata, such as alternative text for images. The primary purpose of ISO 14289 (known as PDF/UA) is to define how to represent electronic documents in the PDF format in a manner that allows the file to be accessible. This is accomplished by identifying the set of PDF components that may be used and restrictions on the form of their use. PDF/UA is intended as a companion standard, to be used in conjunction with ISO 32000, ISO 19005, ISO 15930 and other standards as may apply for the purpose of achieving accessibility or as mandated by this International Standard. In order for PDF/UA conforming files to be truly accessible, requirements on conforming readers and conforming assistive technology are also stipulated herein. By itself, PDF/UA does not necessarily ensure that the visual appearance of the content accurately reflects any original source material used to create the conforming file. For example, the process used to create a conforming file might substitute fonts, reflow text, downsample images, or use lossy compression. Organizations that need to ensure that a conforming file is an accurate representation of original source material may need to impose additional requirements on the processes that generate the conforming file beyond those imposed by this International Standard. In addition, it is important for those organizations to implement policies and practices regarding the inspection of conforming files for correct placement of accessibility information.

AiIM (an accredited standards developing organization) maintains an ongoing series of application notes for guiding developers and users of this International Standard. These application notes will be displayed, when available, at <http://www.aiim.org/resources/standards/committees/PDFUA/App-Notes>. AiIM will also retain copies of the specific non-ISO normative references in this International Standard that are publicly available electronic documents.