

Universal Printer Description Format

Meeting Minutes

Maui, Hawaii

January 18, 1999

Attendees

Sandra Matts	Hewlett-Packard
Lee Farrell	Canon
Harry Lewis	IBM
Brian Batchelder	Hewlett-Packard
Jan Idomir	Hewlett-Packard
Bill Wagner	DPI
Michael Wu	Eastman Kodak Co.
Raymond Balmes	Oce
Michael Yeung	Canon
Don Criscione	Xionics
Henrik Holst	i-data
Grant Gilmour	Qmaster Software
Rick Yardumian	Xerox
Eric Random	Peerless
Abdallah Qaisi	Apple
Ron Bergman	Dataproducts
Don Wright	Lexmark
Laurie Lasslo	Hewlett-Packard

Agenda

Requirements Document

The group worked online with the requirements document.

Current version of the requirements document is at

ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/upd/Archive/Requirements/UPDF_SRS.doc or

ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/upd/Archive/Requirements/UPDF_SRS.pdf

Apple presentation of Mac OS Printing Architecture

Abdallah Qaisi gave an informative presentation on Apple's new printing system architecture for the next version of Mac OS. Apple is re-designing their print subsystem for the next version of Mac OS. This is the first time in several years that a re-design this

extensive has been done. The end result is that printer drivers will be much easier to develop especially if the printer language is PostScript. PostScript support is built-in into the system. If the printer vendor wants a raster driver (non-PS), then additional work will have to be done. However there is an SDK that defines the interface for the printer vendor. The new design should reduce printer driver development time from months or years to days. More details will be available during the WWDC in May 1999.

Xionics presentation of System Independent Data

Xionics presented an architecture they use internally to support several PDLs and several languages with one code base. They call their architecture System Independent Data. It supports PCL5e, PCL6, CaPSL, PostScript, ESC/P, ESC/P2, and Printgear. They also use it to develop drivers Win 3.1, Win 9x, NT 3.51, NT 4.0, and OS/2. Don's slides are here: <ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/upd/Archive/1999/SysInd.ppt> and <ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/upd/Archive/1999/SysInd.pdf>

Subgroup discussion

The group decided on a preliminary division of categories for the specification of the UPDF. They are Font handling, Paper handling, Color management, Localization, Communication, User Interface, Callback mechanism, Device capabilities, and PDL. The intent is to have the sub-groups meet during the week of the PWG meeting. We didn't specify any time to meet during the next meeting in Miami yet. It was decided at the meeting that the group will also have a phone conference every other Tuesday to discuss the specification. This way people who cannot attend a particular sub-group can use the phone conference to keep up with the work.

The phone conference time is 10-12 Pacific on Feb 2 and 16.

XML Links

Specification is at www.w3.org/xml

XML FAQ is at www.ucc.ie/xml

Tim Bray's annotated XML spec: www.xml.com/xml/pub/axml/axmlinto.html

Robin Cover's XML site: www.sil.org/sgml/xml.html

Contains a large number of links to every XML resource

XML info: www.xmlinfo.com

Seybold site: www.xml.com

XML Software: www.xmlsoftware.com

Decisions made and updates

UPDF Web page is up and is at www.pwg.org/upd/index.html

Update Web page with links to the XML information we have gathered so far.

One good book that appears to be popular is "XML Black Book" by Natanya Pitts-Moultis, Cheryl Kirk. ISBN is 157610284X

As an initial effort it was suggested we code the current GPD and PPD format into XML to see how it works.

Links and info

Mail list is upd@pwg.org

FTP archive is <ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg>

PWG web site is www.pwg.org

Meetings schedule for 1999 is at www.pwg.org/chair/meet99.html