UPDF Meeting Minutes

Savannah, Georgia

September 29, 1998

Attendees

Sandra Matts	Hewlett-Packard
Lee Farrell	Canon
Harry Lewis	IBM
Paul Moore	Microsoft
Randy Turner	Sharp
Ben Brezinsky	Hewlett-Packard
Michael Wu	Eastman Kodak Co.
Hugo Parra	Novell
Greg LeClair	Epson
Carl-Uno Manros	Xerox

Agenda

Charter Review

Discussed in great detail the current Charter proposal. The group decided to shorten the charter and move the details to the requirements document. Also the group decided to format the goals using bulleted list and clearly specify the out of scope section.
Universality as viewed from two different perspectives.

1. The operating system. UPDF allows many unique print drivers to be replaced with one "universal" driver because all printers support UPDF. Each OS has the choice to adopt this strategy (or not.)
2. Printer. If Oss are encouraged to support UPDF then putting UPDF support into the printer buys driver support on multiple OS platforms.

Support for optional features is still open for debate. Will the UPDF definition include platform independent "call back" function or API (like Java)?
Goal is to support as many printers and PDLs as possible using snap-ins for unique function.
What about support for Adobe Job ticket and IPP set of attributes?
Previous statements (mainly by printer vendors) was centered around making sure UPDF did not preclude the monolithic driver. Assumption was that there will always be some device specific (ex. Color) feature that needs unique tuning.

Now driven by more by the OS (Microsoft) and agreed to by many printer vendors is a turnabout stating our Goal should be to create a plugin framework intended to accommodate any and all specific needs – even if they are unknown today.
Charter does not define a driver. We are defining a universal file format to facilitate a universal printer driver.

Requirements doc will list OSs intended for UPDF.
Decisions were made detailing the OS independent section of the requirements. UPDF is OS independent. The UPDF driver itself is OS dependent. The customization may be OS dependent.
Goal is to ship 1 driver and download files from device, which is an improvement over the current scenario of shipping 3000 drivers.

The group will define a static implementation for now and add dynamic queries later.
Also people suggested delaying defining the plug-in mechanism until later.
Plan is to start with GPD and PPD and move forward.

Paul Moore will provide copy of GPD.

Next Meeting

Friday November in Tucson, AZ.
Approve the UPDF Charter on Wednesday.
Go through requirements.

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