



Introduction to IDPF & EPUB

Bill McCoy
Secretary, IDPF EPUB WG
October 11, 2010
Seattle

What is IDPF?

- International Digital Publishing Forum
- Non-profit Trade and Standards organization for Digital Publishing
- Established 2001 (initially Open eBook Forum)
- 150+ members from 25+ countries: publishers, nonprofits, and HW/SW/ services providers

What is EPUB?

- EPUB is the XML-based open standard file format for downloadable books and other digital publications
- EPUB facilitates the creation and transport of single-file digital publications, interoperable between reading devices & applications, and accessible to the visually impaired
- Standard developed and maintained by IDPF since 1999 (originally OEBPS, EPUB since 2007)
- Components include structure/metadata schema (OPF), XHTML/CSS/SVG content (OPS), ZIP packaging with XML manifest based on ODF (OCF)
- Aligned with DAISY accessibility standard



Timeline: EPUB Industry Adoption

- June 2007: Adobe Digital Editions & InDesign w/ EPUB support
- October 2007: Sony Reader w/ EPUB support
- May 2008: Assoc. American Publishers (AAP) endorses EPUB
- October 2008: UK Publishers Association endorses EPUB
- March 2009: Google publishes 1M+ public domain books in EPUB
- August 2009: Sony moves US eBookstore to EPUB (EOL for BBeB)
- October 2009: Barnes&Noble Nook w/ EPUB (EOL for eReader)
- April 2010: Apple iPad and iBooks, EPUB as sole format

EPUB 3.0 Goals

- Expand usefulness of EPUB for visually complex, interactive, and media-rich publications
 - Textbooks, scientific and professional publishing, magazines
- Expand EPUB's applicability for global content
- Improve EPUB standard consistency, implementation conformance, accessibility support, and ease of content authoring
- Increase Web Standards alignment (HTML5)

Timeline: EPUB 3.0 Process

- May 2010: Working Group charter approved
- October 2010: First internal working draft
- December 2010: First public Working Draft
- January 2011: Draft Standard for Trial Use
- May 2011: Final Specification