PWG / MPSA Alliance

# Introduction

The Printer Working Group – a Program of the IEEE-ISTO, is an active standards development consortium for the printer, multifunction device (MFD), print software and services and printer/MFD management industry. The Managed Print Services Association (MPSA) is an independent non-profit international organization that seeks to develop Managed Print Services (MPS) within the industry through communications, collaboration, education and best practices. Since the PWG activity of developing standards for imaging devices and services and the MPSA activity of supporting the users of these device and services are complementary, an exchange of information and degree of collaboration between the two organizations would be mutually beneficial. This informal agreement outlines the type of cooperation appropriate to the objectives of the two organizations, and describes an initial program by which the PWG contributes informative articles and surveys for the MPSA to make available to its membership.

# Alliance Scope

The basis for the MPSA/PWG relationship is that a large portion of the MPSA membership are users of the equipment and services to which the standards produced by the PWG apply. By the MPSA providing vendor-independent access to users’ requirements, problems and desires, the PWG is better able to develop and adjust applicable standards for the equipment and services produced by the PWG membership. By the PWG providing information on existing standards and on-going standards activity, MPSA members are better able to see and comment on and see how what standard solutions will help them address their requirements, and therefore what standards should be implemented in the products they use.

The scope of the MPSA/PWG cooperation is basically the exchange of information. The MPSA provides use cases and identifies problem areas using survey data, focus groups, and perhaps direct contacts. The PWG provides information on existing and envisioned standards with respect on how they address perceived requirements and solve anticipated problems.

# Examples of Possible Cooperative Activities

## PWG-Generated Articles for MPSA

A cooperative activity has been identified whereby the PWG members provide a series of articles on areas of interest and associated standards in place and being considered. The outline for the articles is listed below. Each major heading corresponds to one article. Articles are typically to be issued once per month. Each article is to include a link to a survey on the subject, which may query specific interests of the reader, reaction to article information and style, and/or the reader experience and observations related to the need for, advantages of, or problems with specific aspects of the subject .

1. **Managed Print Services and Imaging Device Standards – The PWG**
   1. The New Printing Environments
   2. Advantages of Industry Device Standards for Printers and MFDs.
   3. The PWG
      1. What is it?
      2. Objectives
      3. Members
      4. Some PWG-Developed Standards
   4. Current Activities & Working Groups
      1. Device and Service Management
      2. Protocols – Mobile and Cloud Printing
      3. Security – Network, Device, Content
      4. Modeling of Imaging Services and Operations
   5. The PWG Series of Articles
      1. Projected Schedule of topics
      2. Importance of Feedback from the Field
      3. What Hardcopy Device subjects are of most interest to you? Questions and Feedback
2. **Hardcopy Security– Network Access Control**
   1. What, Why, How?
   2. Registering Hardcopy Devices
   3. Recovering from Rejection - Remediation
   4. Questions and Feedback
3. **Hardcopy Device Power Management**
   1. What, Why and How? Concept and Objectives
   2. Examples/ Scenarios
   3. The guts - Management Elements and the Power Management MIB
   4. What are your Power Management needs?
4. **Management, Accounting and Device Utilization Issues**
   1. Access – Authentication and Authorization
      1. Device and Information Security Issues
      2. Miss-Use and Unauthorized Use
      3. Affect on external maintenance and support
   2. Logging
      1. For Security - Audit Trail
      2. Accounting – Billing and Charge Assignment
   3. Questions and Feedback
5. **The New Printing/Hardcopy Environments - Cloud Printing, Mobile Printing, Driverless Printing, Wireless Printing, Green Printing –**
   1. Definitions
   2. Commonalities and Differences
   3. Objectives in Development and Evolution
   4. Questions and Feedback
6. **Cloud Printing**
   1. Why are there so many different implementations?
      1. Cloud Server -Goggle-Type
      2. Email Type
      3. Other
   2. How will it affect Printers/MFDs and how they are supported?
      1. Printer Registration
      2. Discovery
      3. State and Status Information
      4. Job Delivery
   3. Questions and Feedback
7. **Mobile Printing**
   1. Different implementations
   2. Impact on Devices and support
8. **Green Printing**
   1. Design, Set-up and Use considerations
   2. Power Efficiency
   3. Consumables Efficiency
   4. Environmental vs Economic Considerations
   5. Questions and Feedback
9. **Hardcopy Security – User and Administrative Information Security**
   1. What needs to be secured, what from, and why?
      1. User’s Information Security
      2. Device and Administrative Data Security
   2. Regulatory Compliance Issues
   3. Methods
   4. Questions and Feedback

## Cooperation with MPSA Standards and Best Practices Committees

To the extent that the MPSA may itself want to develop standards or best practices documents, the group doing the development is invited to co-ordinate with the appropriate PWG working group(s) to provide consistency in terminology and continuity of intent to better assist in the communication of requirements and solutions between the suppliers and the users.

# Obligations

Neither the MPSA nor the PWG incur any legal obligations under this informal agreement, and either organization can elect to cease cooperation at any time. However, it would be courteous for the organization electing to cease or modify cooperation on any specific activity to so inform the appropriate contact of the other organization.

**Contacts**

PWG:

Michael Sweet

Chairman – PWG

msweet@apple.com

Bill Wagner

Chairman - WIMS Working group of the PWG

wamwagner@comcast.net

MPSA

(TBD)

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