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Charter of the PWG Multifunction Device (MFD) Working Group (WG)

Status: Approved
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<ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/mfd/charter/ch-mfd-20070504.pdf>

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Problem Statement:

Network print devices have evolved to support additional multifunction services (e.g., Scan, EmailIn, FaxOut, etc.). Such network MFDs are imaging devices that are similar in many ways to network print devices. When network MFDs are installed in local office or enterprise networks, there is a need for remote service, device, and job management capabilities so that administrators, operators, and end users can monitor their health and status. In addition, there is a need for remote job submission capabilities so that operators and end users can create sophisticated jobs (e.g., with image enhancement, image transformation, etc.) without necessarily depending entirely on local console interfaces (which may have limited functionality). Currently service, device, and job management and job submission protocols for these network MFDs are fragmented and proprietary. A standard for service, device, and job management and job submission for these network MFDs would benefit both the imaging industry and the user community.

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NOTE: In Phase 1, the MFD WG will only define the network Scan service, job, and document objects, operations, and attributes (i.e., the definition of the network Scan device object is explicitly out-of-scope in Phase 1).

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Out-of-scope:

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- OOS-1. Do not define any compound services (e.g., Scan-To-Email, Scan-To-Fax, or Scan-To-Print).

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- OOS-2. Do not define any workflow protocols (i.e., sequencing and coordination of jobs across multiple services).

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- OOS-3. Do not define any service management or job operations for MFDs that are not directly network connected.

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- OOS-4. Do not define any new document formats to be implemented in network MFDs (i.e., alternatives to TIFF, JPEG, etc.).

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Objectives:

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- OBJ-1. Define management requirements and usage models for network Scan services, jobs, and documents.

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- OBJ-2. Define an abstract architectural model of management objects and semantics for the above set of requirements and usage models.

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- OBJ-3. Define consistent names and semantics for these management objects that can be accessed through any supported management protocol.

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- OBJ-4. Define an abstract Scan Service Interface (SSI) that:

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- (a) is coherent with the PWG Semantic Model (PWG 5105.1);

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- (b) includes or references the above abstract Scan architectural model;

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- (c) defines abstract Scan service, job, and document management objects, operations, and attributes; and

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- (d) defines abstract Scan job submission operation(s) for simple Scan-To-Storage jobs (i.e., scanning one or more physical media pages, performing any required image processing, and storing the results to a local or remote document repository).

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- OBJ-5. Define a set of XML Schema files for the abstract Scan service, job, and document objects, operations, and attributes that are defined in the abstract Scan Service Interface specification.

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- OBJ-6. Define a Web Services Binding of the abstract Scan Service Interface to one or more public standard Web Services protocols.

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Milestones:

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Charter Stage:

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- CH-1. DONE – Initial working draft of MFD WG charter – April 2007

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- CH-2. DONE – Interim working draft of MFD WG charter – April 2007

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- CH-3. DONE – Stable working draft of MFD WG charter – May 2007

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- CH-4. DONE – PWG approval of MFD WG charter – May 2007

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Definition Stage:

- MODEL-1. Initial working draft of abstract Scan Model and Requirements – Q4 2007
- SSI-1. Prototype working draft of abstract Scan Service Interface – Q1 2008
- SSI-2 WG Last Call of abstract Scan Service Interface – Q2 2008
- XML-1. Prototype working draft of Scan XML Schema – Q1 2008
- XML-2. WG Last Call of Scan XML Schema – Q2 2008
- WS-1. Prototype working draft of Scan Web Services Binding – Q2 2008
- WS-2. WG Last Call of Scan Web Services Binding – Q3 2008

Implementation Stage:

- IMP-WS-1. Interoperability event for MFD Web Services Binding – Q4 2008