

## PDF Generation Guide

Adobe® Portable Document Format (PDF) is a publicly available specification used by standards bodies around the world for document distribution and exchange. Generating your paper in PDF Format ensures that whenever your document is viewed – on screen or in print, it looks exactly as you intended. Your I/ITSEC paper is required to be submitted in this format. Please do not use security settings or password protect your pdf.

### **What is the process?**

Generally you use a word processor to develop your document, and then generate the PDF file as a separate step, similar to printing. Once your PDF file is generated, you preview it on screen and in print using Adobe Acrobat Reader – available free from <http://www.adobe.com>. If everything looks as you intended, you are done. If not, make the changes in your word processor and regenerate the PDF.

### **What tools are available?**

Of course, Adobe Acrobat (not Acrobat Reader) is available. However, since the PDF specification is publicly available, there are many other choices – and some are available at no charge (verify the licensing agreement permits your use). Adobe even provides a PDF generation service. The list below is certainly not all-inclusive but will help you get started.

<http://www.adobe.com> Adobe Acrobat. Powerful PDF generation – from the creators of PDF.

<http://createpdf.adobe.com> Create Adobe PDF Online. Free Trial; create 5 Adobe PDF files for free. USD\$9.99 / month for unlimited use.

<http://www.acrosoftware.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp> “CutePDF Writer installs itself as a "printer subsystem". This enables virtually any Windows applications (must be able to print) to create professional quality PDF documents - with just a push of a button! FREE for personal and commercial use! No watermarks! No Popup Web Ads!”

Some additional resources:

<http://kenchiro.tripod.com/howtoPDF.html>

<http://kenchiro.tripod.com/PDFHowTo.pdf>

### **A few tips**

PDF File versions PDF Version 1.3 is Acrobat 4.X

PDF File versions PDF Version 1.4 is Acrobat 5.X

Many free PDF generators create PDF Version 1.3 files. This is OK. Adobe Acrobat Reader 5 and above can read both the 1.3 format and the 1.4 format.

For best appearance of your charts and images when printed, generate the PDF file minimum of 600dpi. Anything over 1200dpi is probably excessive. Check your application on how to select the resolution.

Use Adobe Acrobat Reader to preview print your document to a printer as your final proof. Use a color printer if your paper makes use of color.

If you want hyperlinks, you'll need to use a tool that generates Tagged PDF files, such as Adobe Acrobat.

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