

# JDF

The Job Definition Format (JDF) is an industry standard designed to simplify information exchange between different applications and systems in and around the graphic arts industry. To that end, JDF builds on and extends beyond pre-existing partial solutions, such as CIP3's Print Production Format (PPF) and Adobe Systems' Portable Job Ticket Format (PJTF). It also enables the integration of commercial and planning applications into the technical workflow. JDF joins the growing number of standards based on XML, ensuring maximum possible portability between different platforms and ready interaction with Internet-based systems. The JDF Specification defines the entire print production process as well as the print product life cycle in a very detailed manner. The JDF specification is the master document for system integration and product description.

JDF is a comprehensive XML-based file format and proposed industry standard for end-to-end job ticket specifications combined with a message description standard and message interchange protocol.

- JDF is designed to streamline information exchange between different applications and systems.
- JDF is intended to enable the entire industry, including media, design, graphic arts, on-demand and e-commerce companies, to implement and work with individual workflow solutions.
- JDF will allow integration of heterogeneous products from diverse vendors to create seamless workflow solutions.

## The most prominent features of JDF are:

1. Ability to carry a print job from genesis through completion. This includes a detailed description of the creative, prepress, press, postpress and delivery processes.
2. Ability to bridge the communication gap between production and Management Information Services (MIS). This ability enables instantaneous job and device tracking as well as detailed pre- and post-calculation of jobs in the graphic arts.
3. Ability to bridge the gap between the customer's view of product and the manufacturing process by defining a process-independent product view as well as a process-dependent production view of a print job.
4. Ability to define and track any user-defined workflow without constraints on the supported workflow models. This includes serial, parallel, overlapping, and iterative processing in arbitrary combinations and over distributed locations.
5. Ability to do so (1, 2, 3, and 4) under nearly any precondition.



### Getting Involved

You are missing functionality in the JDF Specification or you have a suggestion how to clarify or improve our Spec? Become part of the CIP4 Community! Please don't hesitate to tell us by creating a new [JIRA issue](#). We would love to discuss your ideas!

If you don't have any account yet, feel free to create one here: [Visitor Registration](#).

## Quick Links

 <a href="#">JIRA Issues</a>	 <a href="#">JDF Samples</a>	 <a href="#">JDF Errata</a>
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## Download JDF Specification

Description	Link	Remarks
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JDF 1.7 final published version		
JDF schema (lax)	<a href="https://schema.cip4.org/jdfschema_1_7/JDF.xsd">https://schema.cip4.org/jdfschema_1_7/JDF.xsd</a>	The official version of the jdf schema is available at schema.cip4.org

There is also an archive of all former JDF versions on [JDF Archive](#).

## Interoperability Conformance Specifications (ICS)

The concept of Interoperability Conformance Specification of “ICS” documents is introduced. No single device (i.e., printer, press, imagesetter, etc.) is likely to implement all that the JDF specification provides for. For instance, if you are in the digital printing business, you might not care to facilitate data used for case binding. A RIP is not a requirement for facilitating JDF preflighting. A Stitcher probably doesn't need to handle image rendering data. To specify exactly what individual classes of devices need to do with JDF, CIP4 members are developing ICS document that will provide the minimum expectations for individual classes of devices.

Title	Shortname	Version	Mission
<a href="#">Automated Print Procurement ICS: Cus-APP</a>		2.0	
<a href="#">Base ICS</a>	Base	1.5	First document in a series of ICS documents.
<a href="#">Binding ICS</a>	Binding	1.0	Requirements for Saddle Stitching, Soft-cover and Hardcover Binding.
<a href="#">Common Metadata for Document Production Workflow ICS</a>	PDF/VT	1.0	Standardized metadata embedded in structured PDL data.
<a href="#">Customer to MIS ICS</a>	CusMIS	1.3	Use of PrintTalk and JDF to convey customers requirements to a print provider
<a href="#">Integrated Digital Printing ICS</a>	IDP	1.5	Integrated Digital Printing (IDP)
<a href="#">JMF ICS</a>	JMF	1.5	Communication using JMF
<a href="#">Layout Creator to Imposition ICS</a>	LayCrImp	1.4	Interface between a layout creation tool and a Consumer
<a href="#">MIS ICS</a>	MIS	1.5	Interoperability between MIS and production equipment

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<a href="https://confluence.cip4.org/plugins/servlet/gadgets/ifr?container=atlassian&mid=85905047552&country=US&lang=en&view=default&view-params=%7B%22writable%22%3A%22false%22%7D&st=atlassian%3Ar9FuDS7sDgqfIW4R%2B5cbtF5iYHeAiS%2B7Htwp30ZAtCfHM9y8l%2BajuCTH3PJfPTFp56xRIH41Ja20B01kdWxDphJZfXD5SLDkhzVFlomn%2FLpfYHP3%2B2otuhypLtfcoFiy4t00vQCvRPaEP EjnGclyIV6Q2OGYFzBwp993H056Q9WHFhYaluhaFy2G0ddmlRUEvAOBUrGspigVkhqSnRx2IPzaT%2B55M21ebiAuJnYoaQVFC8HLkGzf vEPAA7MplOcoFZxnyVz6fNc9h%2BI3mDk1mIS0%3D&up_isConfigured=true&up_isReallyConfigured=true&up_title=JDF%2520Activity%2520Stream&up_titleRequired=true&up_numofentries=5&up_refresh=15&up_maxProviderLabelCharacters=50&up_rules=%257B%2522providers%2522%253A%255B%257B%2522provider%2522%253A%2522streams%2522%252C%2522rules%2522%253A%255B%257B%2522rule%2522%253A%2522key%2522%252C%2522operator%2522%253A%2522is%2522%252C%2522value%2522%253A%255B%2522JDF%2522%255D%252C%2522type%2522%253A%2522select%2522%257D%255D%257D%252C%257B%2522provider%2522%253A%2522issues%2522%252C%
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MIS to Conventional Printing ICS	MISCPS	1.3	Requirements for JDF Sheet-Fed Offset Printing
MIS to Finishing ICS	MISFin	1.3	Interface between the MIS and a Postpress Controller
MIS to PrePress ICS	MISPRE	1.5	Connect an MIS system to a prepress system
MIS to WebPress ICS - Commercial Web	MISWebComm	1.3	Requirements for JDF Commercial WebPrinting
MIS to WebPress ICS - Newspaper	MISWebNewspaper	1.3	Requirements for JDF NewsPrinting
Office Digital Printing ICS	ODP	1.3	Digital Printing
Prepress to Conventional Printing ICS	PRECP	1.4	Interface between a Prepress and Conventional Printing
Quality Control -Customer ICS		2.1	
Quality Control -MIS ICS		2.1	
Wide Format Printing ICS	DWF	1.4	Wide Format Printing

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