



Information Conversion Suite

ON DIGITAL PRESERVATION AND FILE FORMATS

File formats are a crucial layer, indeed a hinge between the bits in storage and their meaningful interpretation. The proper access to and display of content depends entirely on the ability to decipher the respective bitstream, and consequently on precise knowledge about how the information contained within is represented.



Thus file formats are one of the core issues of any digital preservation approach, and file format obsolescence is a major challenge for anybody wanting to preserve digital files.

Although new emerging XML file formats are a great leap forward for lossless migrations, the need for migrations will remain, as long as standards evolve and new file formats are being created.

@MIRE'S INFORMATION CONVERSION SUITE ...

... offers a standalone network application server, able to perform a large variety of file conversions. The information conversion suite can be fully **integrated in your repository** environment and other applications.

... is able to support your migration strategies and enhances accessibility of stored information.

... is sold at a **fixed price**, without annually recurring license fees, **including installation** in your DSpace repository environment¹ and one year **updates and support**.

THE CONCEPT: A FRAMEWORK FOR CONVERTORS

The application is designed as a publishing, migration and conversion framework using webservices. Within this framework, specific file convertors can be plugged in. Thanks to a **unique chaining algorithm**, the new convertor can interact with other convertors in order to realize combined conversions.

As an example, if you add an HTML to PDF convertor to the suite, that already holds a DOC to HTML convertor, your users will be enabled to convert from DOC to PDF with it. This not only works for text formats, but equally well for audio and video formats.

Of course, the chain of convertors works as good as its weakest convertor. Therefore, @mire maintains a set of quality convertors that are standard delivered with the suite.

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¹ @mire supports both JSP and XML (Manakin) User interfaces



STANDARD SET OF POSSIBLE CONVERSIONS

Here follows a selection of the conversions, possible with an out of the box version of the Information Conversion Suite.

Text document conversions



from MS Word (.doc, .docx), Rich Text Format (.rtf), Pocket Word Document (.psw), OpenOffice document (.swx, .sdw, .odt), Wordperfect Document (.wpd)

to Portable Document Format (.pdf), MS Word (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf), Text Document (.txt), Pocket Word Document (.psw)

Spreadsheet conversions



from MS Excel (.xls, .xlsx), Pocket Excel Spreadsheet (.pxl), OpenOffice Spreadsheet (.ods, .sxc, .sdc)

to Portable Document Format (.pdf), MS Excel (.xls), Pocket Excel Spreadsheet (.pxl)

Image conversions



from .jpeg, .jpg, .png, .gif, .tiff, .bmp, .dxf, .psd, .wmf, .xpm, .emf, .odg, .sda, .sxd

to .pdf, .jpeg, .jpg, .png, .gif, .tiff, .bmp, .wmf, .emf

The Information Conversion Framework also includes convertors for presentations, audio and video.

INTERFACES

The Information Conversion Suite comes standard with a simple **web interface**, allowing users to upload files and download the converted files, after selecting the desired target format.

The URL for this web interface, can also be used as a target for **POST requests** from another web page, containing the file and the target format as parameters. This is a first and easy way to integrate the Information Conversion Suite in other (web) applications.

Upon purchase, @mire integrates the Information Conversion Suite with one of your applications, for example, an existing Institutional Repository. As a result, you are to offer digital objects in an Institutional Repository, in a multitude of different file formats.

TRY IT !

You can tryout the Information Conversion Framework online at atmire.com. After uploading a file, you will be presented with possible conversions for a file. After selecting one of the options, your converted file will be downloaded immediately. The framework is also integrated in **@mire Labs** (<http://atmire.com/labs>), @mire's DSpace platform for evaluation and testing purposes.

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