

PDES, Inc. Announces Merger Agreement with 3D PDF Consortium

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To better serve members and promote the development of model-based standards that support the digital enterprise, PDES, Inc. announced today that it is merging operations with the 3D PDF Consortium.

Together, the combined organization will be able to more effectively leverage its resources to promote 3D data standards optimized for the continuing development of digital manufacturing.

The combined entity will operate under the PDES, Inc. name. The merger is expected to be completed by early 2021 and the merged organization will be led by PDES, Inc. The combined organization will serve more than 40 leading member companies, including Adobe, Airbus, Boeing, Gulfstream, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon Technologies.

“PDES, Inc. and the 3D PDF Consortium are leaders in the development of open 3D standards for use in all stages of manufacturing. Putting STEP AP 242 (ISO 10303-242) files in a PDF document is a natural fit for both formats and organizations. We are excited to work together to provide value for both our memberships while improving the ability of the industry to leverage 3D data within PDF files,” said Mike Jahadi, Chairman of the Board for PDES, Inc. “Thanks to our merger, we’ll be able to further help our members drive innovation throughout their operations.”

PDES, Inc. has been instrumental in developing ISO 10303, commonly referred to as STEP (Standard for the Exchange of Product Model Data), the ISO standard for the computer representation and exchange of product modeling information. The 3D PDF Consortium is dedicated to promoting the adoption and implementation of 3D data usage within PDF files across the manufacturing sector while contributing to the international standards for PDF technology.

Together, the new organization will be able to enhance the PDF format to integrate STEP, allowing people and machines to work with the same authoritative data. This will reduce the amount of data translation necessary to communicate across the supply chain, creating a single source of truth that people and devices throughout the supply chain can rely on.

A user can use a 3D PDF file to view a complex 3D model, analyze details, mark up the model, and add comments. Once STEP is fully integrated, the same high-quality data can then be used in digital processes to create the product.

“This merger enables PDF to maximize its value as the standard format for 3D documents. We will now be able to help develop, test and validate PDF as a unified standard that is more usable, reliable, and cost-effective across various industries, including aerospace, construction, and manufacturing,” said Peter Pfalzgraf, president of the 3D PDF Consortium board of directors. “The 3D PDF Consortium’s merger with PDES, Inc. enhances both organizations and will enable PDF and STEP to become even more viable as a solution for digital manufacturing and long-term archiving.”

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About PDES, Inc.

PDES, Inc. is a participants-based consortium focused on the development and implementation of model-based standards to support the digital enterprise. Founded in 1988, the organization includes members from industry, government and academia. More information can be found at <http://pdesinc.org>.

About the 3D PDF Consortium

The 3D PDF Consortium is a community of organizations representing a broad cross-section of industries and institutions. Small and large end-user companies, software developers, and systems integrators are members of the Consortium. Member companies are dedicated to 3D ubiquity and working together to make that happen.

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