



DOI-eBook (DOI-EB)

An International DOI Foundation Working Group

- Home
- System Description
- DOI Foundation
- DOI Handbook
- DOI Tools
- eBooks
- News & Activities
- FAQs
- Articles & Papers
- Join the IDF
- Registration Agencies
- Admin Forms
- Members Only

The AAP **Open Ebook Publishing Standards Initiative** recommends the adoption of **Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) as the primary identification system** for managing metadata associated with eBooks.

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The Seybold Report, "[E-book Project Highlights Role of DOI in Selling Digital Content](#)" -- **Analyzing Publishing Technologies** by Mark Walter, June 18, 2001.

"Last month, visitors at BookExpo America, a publishing trade show, saw the first demonstration of a new system for tracking digital content. It works by tagging each e-book or other piece of digital content with a number called a digital object identifier, or D.O.I." -- *New York Times*, **Compressed Data: Tags Could Help Keep E-Book Links Alive**, by Lisa Guernsey, June 18, 2001.

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Publishers Weekly (June) "[Tech Survivors get Down to Business](#)" by Paul Hilts and (July) "[Moving E-Product -- Hyperlinks and the DOI may bring publishing and retail closer together](#)" by Steve Zeitchik

"The International DOI Foundation has announced the release of a set of tools that use the DOI system to link content to multiple places on the Internet, using a feature they call Multiple Resolution." -- *Publishers Lunch*, Tuesday, May 29, 2001.

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★ Note: This page is no longer being updated. The IDF Working Group on eBooks was active in 2000-2001. Many of the recommendations and results from this group, summarised and illustrated below, led to (1) the application of DOIs to eBooks and (2) a more generalised model for the development of Application Profiles for all content types.

The work of the group is now being continued in the development of Application Profiles in general by the Technical Working Group and RA Working Group; and in some practical implementations (see [Demos](#) page). For information on the generalised development of Application Profiles, see the [DOI Handbook](#). For further information please contact contact@doi.org.

DOI-EB Overview

During 2001 the Digital Object Identifier for eBooks (DOI-EB) working group successfully developed proofs-of-concept for the use of DOIs with

Demonstrations

[Phase 2 of the DOI-EB project](#) was demonstrated at Frankfurt Book Fair 2001 by Content Directions, Inc. It expands the offering of practical applications demonstrated in [Phase 1](#).

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electronic books, including a variety of technical demonstrations (including multiple resolution). These demonstrations showed the potential for the DOI to unite the power of a structured interoperable metadata system with DOI's multiple resolution system.

[Demonstrations](#) given at Book Expo America in Chicago in June 2001 and at the Frankfurt Book Fair in October 2001 were well received, and have led to new activities within the IDF. Amongst these is the development of a prototype of [advanced DOI functionality](#) which was completed in 2002: this shows the combined power of the DOI's features, multiple resolution and Application Profiles, used to inform client software of available services for a given DOI. At least some of those clients will be specific to Adobe products and will leverage the use of Adobe's embedded metadata technology, XMP. The prototype was built with the collaboration of Adobe (a Member of IDF) but shows general concepts applicable to other platforms. The DOI allows mapping of varying metadata sets to each other without doing a pair-wise mapping of each scheme to each other scheme, and provides a network service that associates a given DOI with useful and current attributes of that DOI. This makes a highly flexible and powerful tool.

The lessons learned and developments emerging from the DOI-EB activity are transferable to other application areas and sectors. To find out more about DOI-EB, and other working groups, or to suggest a new application working group, please contact the IDF at **contact@doi.org**.

To demonstrate the DOI System and its underlying [Handle System®](#) technology, DOIs are used to identify the IDF's papers and other published material. The underlined text linking to the documents contains DOIs embedded in URLs that are resolved using a proxy server. They work with any browser.

The small blue buttons --  -- accompanying those links represent DOIs. Navigating with DOIs requires that the [CNRI Handle System Resolver](#) web browser plug-in be installed on your computer.

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