

# ITEDO Standards Charter

## Introduction

ITEDO's position towards standards has always been a positive one. ITEDO strongly believes that open standards are a necessary prerequisite for users to maintain their data safely over years and decades.

ITEDO is committed to support standards when they become important for technical illustration if possible. In the past, this has led to support for major standard formats like CGM, SVG, PNG, JPEG, IGES, VRML, CALS Raster, and de-facto standards like TIFF, DXF, and others.

ITEDO is convinced that standards alone are useless unless there are products that reliably support them. Therefore, we are committed to support the standards as good as possible.

The user is the central focus of ITEDO. We will help our users in applying the standards to their work area. ITEDO considers itself as an interface between the users of a standard and the standard itself. The user shall not have to learn a standard, he just should know how to use it. There should not be a difference between the standard's capabilities in theory and the practical user experience.

ITEDO's specific interest is the technical illustration sector, and ITEDO will work with formats that suit the task. Based on our experiences, we will try our best to educate the users about the differences in standards and the potential pitfalls. This will always happen in a technically fair and unbiased form as much as possible.

ITEDO's customers value our work in the standards arena very highly, and we promise to keep this always in mind.

## CGM

### History

ITEDO has participated in standardization efforts since 1996. Over the years we have contributed work to most groups controlling a CGM profile, e.g. the ATA Graphics Working Group (GREXCHANGE and IGEXCHANGE profiles), the CALS community (CALS profile), and the J2008 Graphics Working Group (J2008 profile).

ITEDO has also contributed to the work done on the ISO 8632:1999 standard.

Dieter Weidenbrück is one of the authors of the WebCGM profile that came into life as a cooperation between W3C and CGM Open. ITEDO was one of the founding members of CGM Open, and Dieter Weidenbrück has served as the Chairman of this consortium for several years. After the transition in to a Member Section of the OASIS consortium, Dieter has become the Chairman of the Member Section.

## **ITEDO and CGM**

ITEDO considers CGM to be the most important standard format currently in use for technical illustration. Major industries have standardized on CGM for their graphics delivery. Therefore, ITEDO pursues the following goals regarding CGM:

- We want to provide the most stable and complete CGM support in our products
- We want to keep our CGM support up to date as quickly as possible
- We will continue to contribute to the development of the important CGM profiles and the ISO standard itself.
- We will cooperate with other vendors and users to isolate problem areas, and try to resolve the issues

## **Product Support**

IsoDraw	Import	Export
IsoDraw CADprocess	Import	Export
IsoView	Import	
IsoCompose	Import	Export

## **SVG**

### **History**

ITEDO was among the very first vendors to implement support for SVG in its products. IsoDraw 5 has been able to export to SVG since January 2001, based on the Candidate Recommendation. The experiences of this work with SVG and the reactions from customers led to a comparison paper between WebCGM and SVG, that Dieter Weidenbrück wrote together with Lofton Henderson. This paper helped to raise the awareness inside the SVG community for the needs of the technical illustration users.

ITEDO became a member of the W3C in 2004 to further intensify the contribution to SVG. It will actively participate in the SVG working group.

### **ITEDO and SVG**

ITEDO considers SVG to be a very promising new standard that might become important to technical illustration at some point in time. Once the standard will have settled down and stabilized, the technical illustration community will certainly like to explore the SVG capabilities in the areas of animation and interaction, especially for computer based training or interactive wiring.

Therefore, ITEDO pursues the following goals regarding SVG:

- We want to provide a stable SVG support in our products
- We will enhance the support for SVG over time
- We will contribute to the development of the SVG specification

- We will recommend changes to the SVG specification wherever they will result in a benefit for technical users

### **Product Support**

IsoDraw	Export
IsoDraw CADprocess	Export
IsoView	
IsoCompose	Export

### **Practical Use Cases**

ITEDO's products IsoDraw and IsoDraw CADprocess are both authoring tools that use standard formats in a lot of ways. A typical use case is to read and process a 3D CAD model with CADprocess, and then to save it as a 2D file in a variety of formats including CGM and SVG. Two examples from industry: A renowned car manufacturer in Europe uses SVG for technical illustration deployment that is mostly prepared by IsoDraw. Another one uses CGM for internal vendor-independent storage, again this is prepared by IsoDraw.

IsoView is an ActiveX control that can handle the IsoDraw format and CGM plus a couple of raster formats like JPEG, PNG, and TIFF. It is used widely by the entire aerospace industry, both commercial and defense.

ITEDO is concerned about the needs of customers who have to maintain technical illustrations for a long time. 20 to 30 years is a normal period in aerospace and defense industries. We know about the experiences made with several standard formats, including but not limited to IGES, STEP, CGM, and de-facto standards like TIFF or DXF. That's why we are sensitive about stability and interoperability – for the sake of our customers.