



# **BISG Policy Statement POL-1201**

## **ENDORSEMENT OF EPUB 3**

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**BISG POLICY STATEMENT POL-1201: ENDORSEMENT OF EPUB 3**

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**Table of Contents**

POLICY SCOPE & OBJECTIVE.....3

DEFINITION OF EPUB 3 .....3

ENDORSEMENT OF EPUB 3 .....3

RELATED TO VOLUNTARY STANDARDS .....3

## POLICY SCOPE & OBJECTIVE

This Book Industry Study Group, Inc. (BISG) Policy Statement is applicable to content intended for domestic and international distribution in digital format. The objective of this Policy Statement is to endorse EPUB 3.0 as the format of choice when representing, packaging, and encoding structured and semantically enhanced Web content.

This BISG Policy Statement is endorsed by the BISG Board of Directors. For a complete list of BISG Directors, please visit <http://www.bisg.org/about/board.php>.

## DEFINITION OF EPUB 3

EPUB 3 is the current revision of the EPUB standard. EPUB 3 was developed by the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF) pursuant to a charter approved by the organization's membership in May 2010. It was approved by IDPF membership as a final Recommended Specification effective October 11, 2011 and available online at <http://idpf.org/epub/30/spec/epub30-publications.html>. EPUB 3 supersedes the previous release of EPUB 2.0.1.

EPUB 3 is defined by a set of individual specifications. The best starting point for learning about EPUB 3, including a roadmap to the specification documents, is the **EPUB 3 Overview** available at <http://idpf.org/epub/30/spec/epub30-overview.html>.

## ENDORSEMENT OF EPUB 3

The Book Industry Study Group (BISG) endorses EPUB 3 as the accepted and preferred standard for representing, packaging, and encoding structured and semantically enhanced Web content — including XHTML, CSS, SVG, images, and other resources — for distribution in a single-file format.

It is understood that a period of transition is necessary for full implementation of the EPUB 3 standard. To guide industry stake holders through the transition, BISG published an **EPUB 3 Support Grid** in June 2012. The Grid is a comprehensive reference tool for understanding what enhancements and features of EPUB 3 are currently usable on which devices, apps, and reading systems. Due to the rapidly changing nature of EPUB 3 support, the Grid will be frequently updated in the first year of publication. The current version is available at <http://www.bisg.org/what-we-do-12-152-epub-30-support-grid.php>.

BISG encourages organizations interested in the advancement of EPUB 3 to become members of both IDPF and BISG in order to work directly with those creating the standard and developing best practices. For information about membership in IDPF, please visit <http://idpf.org/>. For information about membership in BISG, please visit <http://www.bisg.org/>.

## RELATED TO VOLUNTARY STANDARDS

In keeping with voluntary standards and recognizing that specific business agreements between trading partners are often the prevailing and practical solution, the actual timing of implementation and format of communications surrounding any standard are ultimately determined between trading partners.

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