



The Common Printing Dialog The Specifications

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- **The specifications consist of 3 parts**
 - The specification of the **dialog's user interface**
 - User interface designed by OpenUsability
 - For desktop developers
 - The specification of the **interface between the printing dialog and the applications**
 - DBUS interface: Dialog provided by the desktop environment
 - For application and desktop developers
 - The specification of the **PPD extensions**
 - Custom options, internationalization, option tagging, icons, ...
 - For driver developers and printer manufacturers
- **The specifications can be used independent of each other**
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- **Description of the UI design**
- **Describes in a desktop-independent manner:**
 - Layout
 - Widgets (buttons, lists, preview, ...)
 - Principle of how the dialog is used
- **It does not tell ...**
 - ... how to code the UI elements
 - ... how the data to work with is obtained
- **Written down by the principal UI designer, Peter Sicking**
- **Available on the OpenUsability Wiki:**
<http://wiki.openusability.org/printing/index.php/Specification>



Specification of the Interface Application/Dialog

- **Description of the communication between the application and the printing dialog (Common Printing Dialog API, CPDAPI)**
- **Printing dialog is separate executable, provided by the desktop, to ...**
 - ... have always exactly the same dialog
 - ... allow application and dialog to have different licenses
- **Coupling between application and dialog done via D-Bus**
- **Specification describes all elements (methods, signals, ...) of the dialog object on the D-Bus**
- **Specification written down by Lars Uebernickel, GsoC student working on the CPDAPI implementation**
- **Available on the OpenPrinting Wiki:**
<https://www.linuxfoundation.org/en/OpenPrinting/CPDAPI>



Specification for PPD Extensions

- **These PPD extensions are needed to ...**
 - ... allow decent UI access to the features of modern printer drivers
 - ... internationalized UI elements for the driver
 - ... graphical UI elements (icons, logos, ...)
 - ... control on the option presentation in the Common Printing Dialog
- **We make use of existing specifications:**
 - CUPS custom options to allow numerical, string, password, ... options
 - CUPS globalized PPDs to get multiple languages into one PPD
- **Only the PPD needs to be downloaded from the server**
 - Icons and logos are embedded, UU-encoded
- **Specification written down by Till Kamppeter, OpenPrinting Manager**
- **Available on the OpenPrinting Wiki:**
<https://www.linuxfoundation.org/en/OpenPrinting/PPDExtensions>