



IMF (Interoperable Master Format) is the standard for the exchange of high-quality finished audio-visual masters intended for wide distribution.



Join the IMF User Group today.
Visit <https://www.imfug.com> for more information.



Interested in helping
develop the future of IMF?



What is IMF?

IMF (Interoperable Master Format) is a file format designed to simplify the distribution of content between businesses into multiple territories by creating a single - standardized - package. In addition to an image track, the package can include multiple audio tracks (different languages and different mixes), multiple subtitles, caption tracks and other ancillary data.

An end to "Versionitis"

Most audiovisual works these days come in thousands of different main and promotional versions for each individual market, as well as airline and television edits, etc. With IMF you don't need to create an excessive number of versions of what is essentially the same content. Instead IMF separates a master into individual components (video, audio, subtitles etc.), and a playlist (CPL) that specifies how these various components are played together. Whenever a different version is required, rather than duplicating all of the content, only a new playlist (CPL) and the components not already included in the original version are created.

When will IMF as a standard be ready?

It already is and it's in use today! While new variants of IMF (called applications) are actively being developed for new use cases, IMF already supports a huge variety of formats including HD, 4K, 8K, HFR, HDR, 3D, immersive audio and much more.

Who is using IMF today?

Companies worldwide, including major studios and broadcasters, vendors and manufacturers are actively integrating IMF into their products and services. Visit <https://www.imfug.com/members/>



How does IMF Work?

The IMF standard works by keeping separate the components that make up a master.

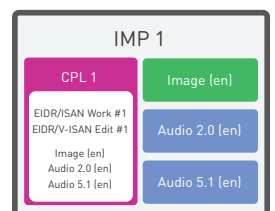
A CPL (Composition Playlist) is then used to define where and how those components are played back. This has a great advantage in that if a different version is required for different territories, only a new supplemental CPL and any new components are required. The CPL and its components can be packaged into Interoperable Master Packages (IMP) for delivery.

For example, if different title cards or subtitles are required for a foreign territory, this can be sent in a new IMP with a supplemental CPL that works in conjunction with the original IMP to form a new version.

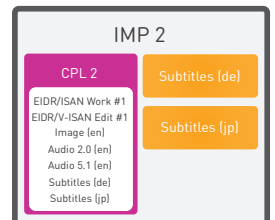
Want to learn more?

If you're interested in exploring the IMF standard in much greater detail, SMPTE runs a course called "IMF Essentials: What You Need to Know" <https://www.smpete.org/education/courses/imf/>.

Many vendors that are members of the IMF User Group are at IBC and would love to talk with you! Unfold this booklet, to find a map of their locations.



In the above image, an IMP is pictured that contains image essence as well as multiple audio tracks. The CPL forms an English version of the content with both stereo and 5.1 audio.



In the above image, we have a new IMP that contains a supplemental CPL as well as two new subtitle tracks. When used in conjunction with the elements contained in IMP 1, this enables a new version to be formed that incorporates the additional subtitles.

IMFUG Exhibitors at IBC



VENDOR	STAND
Amazon Web Services (AWS)	5.C72, 5.C80
Avid	7.B55
Dalet Digital Media Systems	8.B77
Deluxe	7.C49
Dolby Laboratories, Inc.	2.A11
Colorfront	7.C25
Etere	8.B89
EBU (European Broadcasting Union)	10.F20
Fraunhofer Alliance Digital Media	8.B80
Hybrik, Inc.	14.B36
Interra Systems	7.C09
Marquise Technologies	7.D49
MTI Film	8.A01
nablat	7.A06
Ownzones	5.C80
Prime Focus Technologies	7.C05
Rohde & Schwarz	7.B21
Sundog	9.LP4
Technicolor	15.MS26
Tedial	8.B41
Telestream	7.C16
TMD Ltd	2.B59
Venera Technologies	7.A34
Videomenthe	2.B39
Vidispine AB	3.B38
XPERI / DTS	14.A41
Yella Umbrella	9.LP25

KEY:

- IMFUG Exhibitor
- Non-IMFUG Exhibitor

