

Movares B.V.

Engineering innovation



Movares B.V.
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Movares engineers use Adobe® Acrobat® to streamline and accelerate collaboration across project teams with reliable, more secure documents in dynamic PDF

An engineering consultancy firm, Movares B.V. is an industry leader in providing solutions for capacity, safety, and integration issues in the areas of mobility, infrastructure, spatial planning, and transport systems. A company headquartered in the Netherlands, Movares also has offices in Germany and Poland, employs approximately 1,300 staff, and has revenue of more than €168 million. The firm's overall mission is to contribute to the development of a guided public transportation infrastructure, and the firm is continuing to expand its focus into water and energy markets, as well as process management.

Movares operates at all points in the development chain for its clients—from initial studies and planning to design and execution, including project management and asset management. Projects tend to be complex and long term, requiring attention to detail and collaboration between large teams of engineers, technical designers, and support staff.

Helping ensure document accuracy and accessibility

The firm's intricate processes depend on a potentially unwieldy amount of documentation—millions of technical drawings and specification documents created by Movares teams—most of which need to be shared, reviewed, and revised on an ongoing basis. But with over 700 different applications used within the company, employees can't always rely on clients and other team members to have a specific application with them to open a document.

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Consultant in information and communication technologies (ICT),
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Challenge

- Enable accurate document collaboration between employees and clients
- Provide easy access to complex project documents without requiring costly software
- Protect project-critical information and confidential technical specifications
- Address long-term document archive requirements

Solution

- Take full advantage of Adobe Acrobat and dynamic PDF capabilities
- Prepare for company-wide upgrade to Acrobat X Pro

Benefits

- Maintained visual fidelity of key technical drawings and specification documents
- Enabled documents to be shared and commented on by large, dispersed teams
- Helped safeguard sensitive materials from unauthorized access or tampering
- Implemented reliable, standards-based archival solution
- Greatly accelerated rollout of Acrobat X company-wide

Toolkit

Adobe Acrobat X Pro

"Most of our work results in reports we deliver to our customers. It is vital that we can rely on their exactness—whether a normal text document or a complex CAD drawing," explains Peter Dubbelman, consultant in information and communication technologies (ICT) for Movares. "If a drawing isn't communicated correctly every step of the way, for example a bridge or railway design, it could lead to enormous costs. Our employees use Acrobat and PDF to help ensure high quality, accuracy, and easy access no matter who the audience."

By using Acrobat to create dynamic PDF files, Movares employees and clients can streamline document collaboration and review. Whether working in the field, at a client location, or in any of Movares' worldwide and regional offices, everyone who opens a PDF document sees exactly the same thing. Documents can be viewed and commented on using the free, widely available Adobe Reader®. Also, as consultants in the field become more reliant on tablets and other devices, the PDF files will help them view and comment on documents easily on almost any device and platform, providing continued access to critical project information.

PDF accelerates collaboration

At Movares, collaboration doesn't usually take place one document at a time. Often, a project requires related designs, specifications, reports, and notes to be passed around and revised all at once. With Adobe Acrobat, the team saves time and improves collaboration by combining several documents in a single PDF for easy distribution. Traditionally, the binder functionality within Acrobat is used most often; however, the firm also assembles PDF Portfolios when more polished PDF packages are required. This also helps reduce paper consumption, which is important to supporting Movares's commitment to green practices.

"Using PDF for collaboration is one way we reduce our environmental impact," Dubbelman explains. "I can send out PDF documents to all attendants before a meeting—and during the meeting, I can make notes directly on the PDF files using my tablet. Afterward, I can share annotated PDF files with the whole team and continue to work on them back at my PC—all without using a single sheet of paper."

With so many documents passed between team members and clients, the potential for security issues could be a major concern. Movares helps safeguard confidential information using digital signatures in Acrobat to ensure the authenticity of PDF files. Acrobat also offers the team 256-bit encryption and password protection, as well as permissions settings for limiting who can print, copy, or change documents.



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For more information
www.adobe.com/products/acrobat

Not only are the PDF files more secure, but Acrobat also enables the team to create archives of PDF files that can be opened reliably with today’s—and tomorrow’s—technology. To this end, Adobe actively works with standards bodies, such as the International Standards Organization (ISO), to make sure PDF can be used to its full potential—and is now formally recognized as an open ISO standard. This gives the Movares team peace of mind that they will be able to share their PDF documents across platforms and access archived documents for years to come.

This is particularly important to Movares, as it is required to archive documents for both business and legal reasons—and that the archived documents be readable well into the future. To address the growing need to maintain information in electronic documents over time, Movares uses PDF/A.

“Creating PDF/A files using Acrobat makes documents much easier to find compared to paper archiving,” Dubbelman says. “Let’s say we build a bridge today that will be taken down in more than 50 years. We’ll still have the archived documents in PDF needed to dismantle it, and trust they’ll be easy to find and use, no matter what changes occur in technology to read PDF files between now and then.”

Continuing to innovate, deploying Acrobat X

As Movares prepares for a company-wide operating system upgrade to Microsoft® Windows® 7, the firm is making the move to Adobe Acrobat X. The team compared Acrobat X to other solutions, but in large part, the quality and rich functionality of PDF were some of the main reasons they chose to go with Acrobat X.

“I’ve watched Acrobat functionality expand and grow through the years and the advanced capabilities can be incredibly valuable,” says Dubbelman. “What I like best about Acrobat X is that the features are comprehensive, but for people who aren’t power users the interface is still simple—you only see the features you need.”

Another important Acrobat capability is the ease of packaging and deploying the software across large enterprises like Movares. Acrobat comes with the Acrobat Customization Wizard—which, at Movares, reduced the time to package the software for deployment by approximately 80%. Movares is also impressed with the ease of making updates available.

“With Acrobat X, time savings in preparing deployment are enormous and the new functionality helps to make security updates available faster,” says Dubbelman. “We expect updating systems will be even faster and easier when we start using the Microsoft System Center Updates Publisher (SCUP) and the new Acrobat SCUP catalogs with System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM) in the near future.”

