

## **W3C Workshop on CSS Print Antenna House Position**

Automating the formatting of the layouts of pages and publications that have evolved over 2,000 years is highly complex. This is true now more than ever, especially when you consider all the specialization and localization requirements, such as writing directions and page-turning directions.

Antenna House recognized long ago that paged media output, primarily in the forms of PDF and print, would survive far into the future. We set a business goal of providing the most powerful tools available to meet the demands and complexities of automated paged media formatting done at an industrial scale. We also recognized the role that standards would play and the importance of standards in the implementations of our software.

Back in 2006, Antenna House first promoted the idea of paged media output using CSS through greater compatibility between CSS and XSL-FO and has since invested significant resources in both of our parallel CSS and XSL-FO development efforts. We have seen increased interest in using CSS to produce PDFs, while the use of XSL-FO to create PDFs has also continued to grow.

CSS development benefits by applying the lessons learned from our XSL-FO development. The results are the same. Our approach to CSS is to build on the available CSS draft standards and to extend the capabilities parallel to what we have developed with XSL-FO. We now have over 20 years of FO development based on the feedback from thousands of Antenna House users. The added functionality to CSS is done through extensions, the same as with XSL-FO. With FO, we have always been ahead of the recommendation through our extensions. We have also gone far beyond the recommendations with extended properties. Our implementation of CSS is no different.

Ideas for innovation and extensions come from a variety of sources. They include:

- Attending conferences;
- Monitoring and participation in discussion groups and standards committees;
- User requests and suggestions;
- Customer needs based on the support of their unique formatting requirements;
- The need to support complementing technologies, such as SVG, PDF, DITA, etc.;
- and
- Suggestions from the Antenna House development and management teams.

There will always be a need for paged media output. We will continue to innovate, develop, and promote both XSL-FO and CSS through our sales, marketing, support, and development efforts.

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