

PERSONAL INVESTMENT TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE (PITTF) STANDARD

The Personal Investment Technology Task Force (PITTF) was established in 1996 as a joint working group between the Financial Planning Association (FPA) and the Investment Funds Association (IFA). The IFA was merged into the Investment and Financial Services Association, (IFSA), in 1998.

The objective of PITTF was to oversee the implementation of principles outlined in the 1996 'Electronic Commerce Development Plan' which had been developed by the FPA and the IFA.

The group worked from 1996-98 on various initiatives including:

Paper	Extract
PITTF Business Plan	The objective of the PITTF is to oversee the implementation of principles outlined in the "Electronic Commerce Development Plan".
Electronic Commerce Standards and Implementation (1997)	The Blueprint contains a comprehensive collection of defined standards, implementation guidelines and 'how to' instructions.
Overall Review of Code Requirements (1996)	Reviewed requirements in order to fully define the coding requirements of the top five major message classifications used within the managed funds industry.
Messaging Standards - ETC Report	Examines various issues in relation to electronic messaging, including inter-operability of internet mail and x.400 based networks, delivery notification, messaging security, and document interchange standards.
Financial Services Industry Electronic Mail Surveys	Looked at the current use of and attitudes to electronic mail.
Survey of Financial Planners/Survey of Fund Managers	Focussed on use of email .
EDI Architecture User Guide	Described proposed architecture for facilitating ecommerce. Included sections on Application Program Layer, Content Handling Layer, Communications Layer, Message Transport, Security and Confidentiality.
Data and Message Dictionary	Covers messages for Investor Data, Commission Data, Product Data, Investor Portfolio changes, New account data.
Data Standards General Guide	Chapters included Introduction to data message standards, guide for Financial Planners, and Implementers.

The original work of PITTF, though now somewhat dated, is a good source of background information on implementation of electronic commerce in the retail funds management/financial planning industry. All of the PITTF material is archived at IFSA and can be accessed by contacting IFSA .