

IADS is Ready for the Future

Source: Kyell Turner, SSD

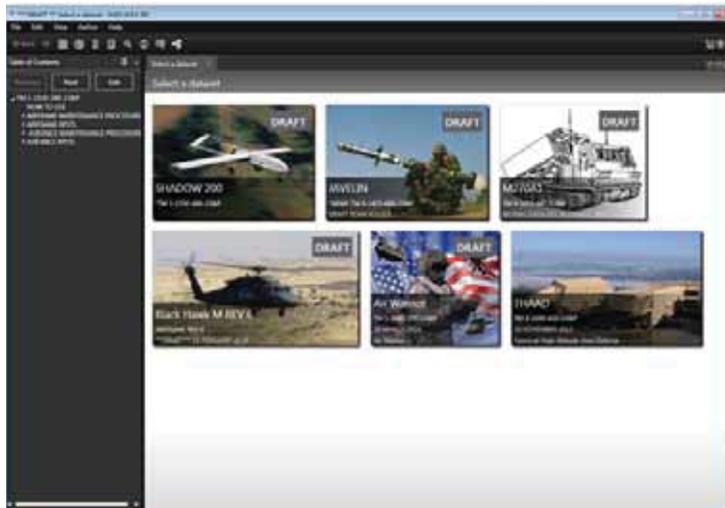
IADS (Interactive Authoring and Display System) has been used to build Interactive Electronic Technical Manuals (IETMs) for over 20 years. It is a government owned software that has supported various missile and aviation platforms during that time. In recent years as technology has changed and evolved, our customers' needs have also changed and evolved. IADS4 aims to be the answer to those new challenges.

IADS4 is a brand new IETM solution designed from the ground up to provide a modern, user-friendly, Soldier-focused viewer. New/improved features include easy installation, tabbed interface, search, interactive troubleshooting, Portable Document Format (PDF) work package creation, equipment configuration, and DA2028 submittal.

Installation is Soldier-friendly and executes without elevated user privileges. The software can automatically update as new versions become available.

Tabbed interface allows users to open references to other work packages while keeping easy access to their starting point. Any number of work packages or search results can be open simultaneously.

Searching has been simplified and improved. Users enter text into a single field and search the entire IETM quickly and accurately. Search results can be filtered based on work package type to further narrow the number of hits found.



Interactive troubleshooting has been improved to display in-line so users can maintain context between the current step and previous decisions.

Generation of a PDF work package from the IETM is simple and may be printed or used for other purposes.

Configuration support in IADS4 allows users to configure the IETM to match their equipment.

DA 2028s can be easily created and submitted from within the IADS software, allowing data to be transferred automatically without requiring the user to key in data like work package sequence or publication date.

For the authoring community, there are several enhancements. IADS 4 uses military standard (40051/38784/S1000D) files directly without requiring any preprocessing to create an IETM. This greatly reduces build time for developing an IETM and ensures that the data complies with the required standards. The software

includes several tools (e.g. link verification) to test and to improve the quality of the data.

IADS4 is being designed with the future in mind and plays a key role in defining the next generation technical manual. These efforts include supporting small-screen devices, rapid dissemination of the most up-to-date IETM data, downloadable IETMs, and enhanced integrated use of multimedia.

If you are interested in learning more about IADS, please call our customer support line at 256-876-4237 or e-mail iads@redstone.army.mil

