

Page-By-Page Protocol (PBPP): Reading Documents in Limited Bandwidth Scenarios

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Abstract

The Page-By-Page Protocol (PBPP) is a protocol designed to allow people to access pages within page delimited formatted documents such as PDF and popular word processing formats. PBPP is intended to eliminate the need to download the entire document by enabling the downloading of partial documents by sets of page. This protocol is specifically intended for those who use handheld devices because those devices are unable to effectively download and view large documents due to limited bandwidth and memory size. PBPP attempts to address these issues by allowing the client application to specify the page(s) to download versus downloading the whole file. PBPP enables the client application to request a single page, a range of pages, or set of pages to be downloaded. Providing these kinds of options cuts down on network traffic and memory requirements on the handheld device. We show why the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP) are insufficient for this scenario and how PBPP is superior in this scenario. In addition, we will introduce the set of commands and responses of PBPP as well as typical client-server sessions using PBPP.