Policy on Acceptable PDS4 Data Formats

PDS shall accept archival data in only the following PDS4 data formats:

i) Fixed-width binary and ASCII tables that are composed of identically structured records;

ii) N-dimensional arrays of homogeneous binary elements (N<=16);

iii) Variable-width character 'spreadsheets' that are composed of repeating, M-field, stream-delimited records where the fields themselves are (separately) delimited and may have variable widths (M>0);

iv) NAIF/SPICE files.

PDS shall accept ASCII text and PDF/A formats for PDS4 documentation. PDS shall accept JPEG, GIF, and TIFF images for figures accompanying documents. PDS shall accept any of the approved structures and formats for browse products.

Exceptions to these PDS4 format limitations shall be approved by the PDS Management Council.

Adopted by PDS Management Council: 2014-04-10