pdfRest Launches Create ZUGFeRD PDF API Tool for Automated German and French E-Invoicing Workflows

New REST API Tool Builds and Validates Compliant ZUGFeRD and Factur-X Hybrid Invoices in a Single Workflow

CHICAGO, IL, UNITED STATES, September 29, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- pdfRest, by Datalogics, announced the launch of the Create ZUGFeRD PDF API Tool, a new REST API tool for building and validating ZUGFeRD and Factur-X hybrid e-invoices. Available now on pdfRest Pro and Enterprise plans, the tool brings automated, standards-compliant invoice generation to accounting platforms, ERP systems, billing applications, and document management systems serving German and French markets.

The Problem: E-Invoicing Is a Multi-Layer Coordination Problem

Electronic invoicing in Germany and France requires a single document that works for both people and automated systems. ZUGFeRD in Germany and Factur-X in France both define a hybrid invoice format: a human-readable PDF/A-3 document with machine-readable UN/CEFACT Cross Industry Invoice (CII) XML embedded inside it. The same file satisfies the recipient who needs to read it and the downstream system that needs to process it.

Producing one correctly means coordinating several layers simultaneously: the visual invoice layout, the embedded XML payload, the attachment relationship, the required metadata, and overall PDF/A-3 conformance. A mismatch between the visual PDF and the XML data, a missing metadata field, or a non-conformant PDF/A structure can cause a receiving system to reject the document outright. Development teams attempting to assemble these layers manually face significant complexity at scale.

One API Call, One Compliant Invoice

The pdfRest Create ZUGFeRD PDF API Tool handles that entire coordination in a single workflow. Developers submit their CII XML invoice, optionally with an existing branded PDF, and pdfRest assembles the hybrid package, validates it, and returns a finished file ready for delivery, archival, or downstream processing. Because ZUGFeRD 2.5.2 and Factur-X 1.09.2 share the same hybrid PDF/A-3 and CII XML model, a single pdfRest integration supports both standards, allowing platforms serving both Germany and France to implement one unified solution. The tool

supports the MINIMUM, BASIC WL, BASIC, and EN16931 profiles for both standards.

Three Flexible Integration Workflows

The tool adapts directly to existing corporate invoice assets:

XML Only: Generate the complete visual invoice and PDF/A-3 package directly from a valid CII XML payload. pdfRest renders the invoice, embeds the XML, applies required metadata, and validates the finished package.

PDF Plus XML: Preserve an existing branded invoice PDF while pdfRest embeds the XML, handles PDF/A-3 conversion, applies the attachment relationship, and injects required metadata. pdfRest compares detectable information and rejects concrete discrepancies by default, protecting against silent mismatches between visual and structured data.

Regenerate on Demand: Set regenerate_pdf to true to replace a mismatched or unconfirmed PDF with a freshly rendered invoice generated directly from the canonical XML, ensuring visual content and embedded data come from the same source.

For generated or regenerated invoices, render_options provides full control over visual presentation, including logo placement, typography, RGB or CMYK color palettes, label language, regional date and decimal formatting, currency display, and footer content. Developers can learn more about configuring automated e-invoices in our guide on how to generate ZUGFeRD and Facture-X compliant e-invoices.

Independent Validation for Any Hybrid Invoice

Conforming XML is only one component of a valid hybrid invoice. A separate validation endpoint, /validated-zugferd, allows development teams to inspect any ZUGFeRD or Factur-X PDF without modifying it, whether generated by pdfRest or received from an external counterpart. The validator checks PDF/A-3 conformance, embedded XML presence, applicable business rules, attachment metadata, XMP properties, and detectable consistency between the visual invoice and structured XML data.

The validation response separates overall compliance decisions from content-match confidence. A status of VALID is returned only when every layer of the package passes. When full reverse confirmation is not possible but no concrete mismatch is found, the tool returns an UNVERIFIED content-match status with a non-blocking warning, allowing organizations to route those files for manual review according to internal policy. Because every API call returns reusable resource IDs, creation and validation can be chained together without downloading intermediate files.

“ZUGFeRD and Factur-X compliance is not just about valid XML, it is about every layer of a tightly specified package working together correctly,” said Eric Shore, Chief Innovation Officer at

Datalogics. “Development teams should not have to orchestrate that assembly themselves. The Create ZUGFeRD PDF API Tool handles it in a single request, with validation built in, so teams can focus on their invoice workflows rather than the compliance machinery underneath them.”

The Create ZUGFeRD PDF API Tool is available immediately on pdfRest Pro and Enterprise plans. Developers can review parameters, explore payload examples, and test integration strategies in the interactive pdfRest API Lab with a free account.

About pdfRest

pdfRest, by Datalogics, provides a comprehensive suite of REST API tools for robust and reliable PDF processing. With a lineage tracing back to the early days of typesetting and the foundational development of PDF technology, pdfRest enables seamless integration of powerful PDF functionalities into any application or workflow, offering both managed cloud and self-hosted solutions for maximum flexibility, security, and control. Learn more at pdfrest.com.

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