AcroTEX.Net

Introducing optional attachments, Part I

D. P. Story

> **Note:** This AeB Pro source file was compiled with the !optattachments option

1. Introduction

The `attachments` option or AeB Pro,

```
\usepackage[%
    ...
    attachments={file_1,file_2,...,file_n},
    ...
]{aeb_pro}
```

allows you to list a collection of files to be attached to the PDF file; think of `attachments` as a list of files that are *required* to be attached. The optional attachments concept allows you to develop a list of files that *are attached* if the `optattachments` option is taken and *not attached* if the `!optattachments` option is taken. AeB Pro defines `\ifoptattachments`, a Boolean switch, which is set to `true` by `optattachments` and to `false` by `!optattachments`.

```
\addtoOptAttachments{<list_of_files>}
```

This command can be used anywhere in the document and adds the listed files to the ones to be optionally attached. The list is comma delimited.

The initial application and motivation of this feature is for projects that are worked on by a team of LaTeX authors. The master project file inputs sections of the document using the `\input` command of LaTeX. The request was for any file that is input using `\input` be added to the optional attachments list; therefore, the AeB Pro package defines the following two commands:

```
\prjinput{<file>}
\prjinclude{<file>}
```

These are the "project" versions of the LaTeX commands `\input` and `\include`, respectively. Each of these adds `<file>` to the list of optional attachments, then passes its argument to `\prjInputUser` and `\prjIncludeUser`, respectively.

```
\newcommand{\prjInputUser}[1]{\input{#1}}
\newcommand{\prjIncludeUser}[1]{\include{#1}}
```

Above are the default definitions of these user commands. They may be redefined as desired to achieve some special effect.

We begin by saying,

```
\addtoOptAttachments{file0.tex}
```

The file `file0.tex` is added to the list of attachments, if `optattachments` is taken, and not added to the list if `!optattachments` is taken.

Note: The `!optattachments` option in effect: Optional files not attached. The only file visible in the attachments pane is the source file.

2. Two

This is `file1.tex`. The content of this file was input by the command,

```
\prjinput{file1.tex}
```

from within the source file of the master file.

The file is input by `\input{file1.tex}`, and added to the optional attachments list.

3. Three

This is `file2.tex`. The content of this file was input by the command,

```
\prjinput{file2.tex}
```

from within the source file of the master file.

The file is input by `\input{file2.tex}`, and added to the optional attachments list.

4. Four

This is `file3.tex`. The content of this file was input by the command,

```
\prjinput{file3.tex}
```

from within the source file of the master file.

The file is input by `\input{file3.tex}`, and added to the optional attachments list.