



What is eForm?

An open standard for intelligent forms
— designed for the digital workplace of tomorrow.

without eform

E-Mail / Email

Name / Name

Adresse / Address

Straße / Street

Nummer / Number

PLZ / Zip Code

Ort / City



with eform

E-Mail / Email

Name / Name

Adresse / Address

Straße / Street

Nummer / Number

PLZ / Zip Code

Ort / City





A form becomes a data carrier



Manifest

- Metadaten des Pakets
- Versionen
- Referenzen auf die enthaltenen Komponenten
- Integritätsinformationen

Schema

- Data Model
- Field Definitions
- Data Types
- Validation Rules

Data

- Actual Business Data
- Completed Forms
- Structured Data Records

Layout

- Human-Readable Presentation
- HTML Rendering Information
- Forms, Views and Print Layouts

Open. Readable. Independent.

eForm is based exclusively on open standards: **SVG**, **JSON**, and **ZIP**. This creates no dependencies — on proprietary file formats, special software, cloud services, or subscription models.

1. Form (Preview)

What the human sees

Employee Data

Personnel Data Sheet

Example Corp.

Personal Information

Last Name:

First Name:

Date of Birth: (DD.MM.YYYY)

E-Mail:

Phone:

Address

Street and House No.:

ZIP Code: City:

Country:

Employment

Department:

Position:

Start Date: (DD.MM.YYYY)

Employment Type:

Date: 30.05.2025

Page 1 of 1

2. SVG File (with Embedded ZIP)

What is technically embedded in the file

```
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
2 <svg xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2000/svg"
3     xmlns:xlink="http://www.w3.org/1999/xlink"
4     width="210mm" height="297mm"
5     viewBox="0 0 210 297"
6     version="1.1"
7     id="Page1">
8   <title>Employee Data</title>
9   ..
10  <!-- eForm ZIP Container (HEX) -->
11  <!-- eForm-Version: 1.0 -->
12  <!-- Begin eForm ZIP (HEX) -->
13  504B030414000600080000002100F35A5E00000000
14  D100000010000006D616E6966666F73742E6A736F6E
15  8B4E2D2E490D2D2ACECECC2B4B2D2E5128502C;2D2A
16  4D2D2D4F07374F2DCC8CC2B4A2D2E4E4MQ1B25200AC
17  05 ...
18  <!-- End eForm ZIP (HEX) -->
19  -->
```



3. Minimal Required Files in the ZIP

What must be contained in the ZIP container

- (Root of the ZIP)
- manifest.json** (Container-Manifest)
- schema.json** (Field Definitions, Rules, Metadata)
- pages/** (Form Presentation)
 - page1.svg** (At least one page)

This is the minimal Structure.
Additional folders and files (e.g. data/, formulas/, standards/, resources/) are optional and only required if needed.

An eForm remains readable and understandable even many years from now — without proprietary software.

Six Design Goals at a Glance

eForm combines six core principles into a cohesive system—for modern, secure, and future-ready form processes.

Openness

Open, documented standards
instead of proprietary formats



Security

Zero-trust architecture
with systematic
input validation



Long-term Archiving

Future-proof retention
without software
dependencies



Automation

Integrated formulas
and rules for
machine processing



Integration

Seamless integration
with existing system
landscapes



Offline Operation

Full functionality without an
internet connection



Typical Use Cases

eForm can be used across industries — wherever forms drive processes and data is collected.



Human Resources

Onboarding,
leave requests,
performance reviews



Quality Management

Inspection reports,
audit forms,
approvals



Compliance

Reports,
records,
certifications



Government & Funding

Grant applications,
administrative procedures,
customer forms

The Benefits

eForm creates advantages on three levels — for people, organizations, and systems.



For Employees

- Less searching — data comes automatically
- Less typing — fields fill in automatically
- Fewer errors — validation is built in



For Companies

- Lower process costs through automation
- Faster workflows without media discontinuities
- Higher data quality through structure



For IT

- Structured data instead of illegible forms
- Standardized processing across systems
- Open interfaces without vendor lock-in

More Than Forms

eForm is the first building block of a family of open business standards. All standards share the same core principles and build on one another.



eForm

Intelligent forms



eCase

Digital cases, Attachments



eBill

Structured invoices, ZUGFeRD

✓ Open standards

✓ Machine-readable

✓ Long-term archivable

✓ Human-readable

✓ Self-describing

✓ Automatable

From Forms to Digital Business Objects

– open enough for collaboration,
yet secure for production use.



E-Mail: tellmi1@gmail.com

Web: <https://www.mjehnichen.de/projekte/libeform/index.html>