**Hello ,**

Following up on our recent discussion about protecting AS9102 files within my FAI Assistant app, I wanted to share a simple and effective approach that I believe would work well for both sides.

**Goal:**  
Only allow officially purchased AS9102 files (e.g., Rev. C) to be loaded into FAI Assistant—preventing users from loading just any version or copy they may find elsewhere.

**Recommended Solution: Metadata Identifier (“Watermark”)**

**How It Works:**

* SAE embeds a unique identifier (sometimes called a “watermark”) in the metadata or a custom field within each official PDF file distributed to customers.
* When a user tries to load an AS9102 file in the app, FAI Assistant checks for this identifier in the file’s metadata before allowing access.
* If the identifier is missing or doesn’t match the expected format, the app will block access and let the user know they need an official file.

**Benefits:**

* **Simple for SAE:** Most PDF publishing tools can add a custom field or metadata tag to each PDF. SAE’s IT or document team can set up this process quickly and consistently.
* **Straightforward for Me:** I can program the app to look for this identifier using readily available PDF libraries in Flutter/Dart, without requiring complex cryptography or third-party server checks.
* **Good User Experience:** End-users won’t have to jump through hoops—if their file is official, it works; if not, they’re directed to the proper purchase channel.

**Technical Example:**  
The identifier could be something like:  
"SAE\_AS9102\_RevC\_Official": "YES"  
or a unique code (e.g., "SAE\_License\_ID": "1234-5678-ABCD"), added to the PDF’s metadata or as a custom property.

**Summary**

* This solution gives SAE reasonable control over which files can be loaded, while keeping things simple for users.
* It’s fast for both my development and for SAE to implement, and doesn’t require complicated signature validation or new infrastructure.
* If SAE has a preferred naming format or method for the metadata tag, just let me know and I’ll handle the app-side checks.

Happy to discuss further or adjust the approach if needed!

Best regards,  
Allan Bremer