

# Documentary Credit

# WORLD

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### ■ ORIGINALITY OF DOCUMENTS

The importance of original documents in trade finance, particularly for commercial LCs, is difficult to overstate. In an expansive study on the topic of originality of paper documents, Pavel Andrle confronts a host of pertinent questions including: What is the role of an original paper document?; Is the presented paper document an original?; How is an original paper document to be signed and what constitutes a signature?; What are the electronic methods of authentication of paper documents?; What is the meaning of “authenticated” versus “signed”?; and Can an original paper document be created from an electronic document? To address these matters, Andrle examines the approaches taken in UCP600, ISP98, and URDG758. He also considers relevant standard practices contained in ISBP and ISDGP as well as ICC Opinions which have answered queries relating to originality.