Focal points for expanded practical cooperation among standards organizations

The IEC/ISO/ITU/UNECE MoU on e-Business Standards

June 2013

The Business Requirement

- Global supply networks are increasingly dependent on electronic transfer, sharing and archiving of information
- Full benefits for consumers, industry and government demand a coherent set of Information and Communication Technology capabilities
  - open
  - interoperable
  - internationally accepted
  - secure
The Role of Standards

Standards required to:
- support dynamic development of electronic capabilities
- across the manufacturing and service industries
- along the global supply chain from supplier to consumer
- throughout the lifecycle of products - may be decades
- provide effective services to the citizen
- avoid the costs of point-to-point solutions

The big challenge

“The great thing about standards is that there are so many to choose from”

- More than 140 organizations addressing parts of the problem
The MoU Vision

Our vision is to offer the environment in which all key international organizations can cooperate and contribute to the delivery and promotion of the evolving set of e-Business standards, and maximize their contribution to global commerce.

Launched 1995, updated 1998

The MoU Objective

- The objective of the MoU is to encourage interoperability by:
  - Recognizing the risk of divergent or conflicting approaches to standardization
  - Avoiding duplication of efforts
  - Providing a clear roadmap for users
  - Ensuring intersectoral coherence
The MoU on e-Business Standards

The Stakeholders

- The MoU on e-Business Standards brings together:
  - The four global de jure standardisation bodies
    - Relevant technical committees and subcommittees
  - Participating international user groups
    - Key projects and activities

The four global de jure bodies

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
- [http://www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- [http://www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- [http://www.itu.int](http://www.itu.int)

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE)
- [http://www.unece.org/cefact](http://www.unece.org/cefact)
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Participating International User Groups

- **OASIS**
  - [http://www.oasis-open.org](http://www.oasis-open.org)
- **CEN/ISSS** – European IT standards
  - [http://www.cen.eu/issss](http://www.cen.eu/issss)
- **GS1** (formerly EAN.UCC)
  - [http://www.gs1.org](http://www.gs1.org)
- **OAGI** – Open Applications Group
  - [http://www.openapplications.org](http://www.openapplications.org)
- **SWIFT** – Financial sector
  - [http://www.swift.com](http://www.swift.com)
- **UPU** – Universal Postal Union
  - [http://www.upu.int](http://www.upu.int)
- **IMO** – International Maritime Organization
  - [http://www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)

The Principles

- Information on work programmes will be shared openly
- The cooperation will focus on action, not discussion
- The process shall not represent an additional layer of bureaucracy in the standardization process
- Recommendations will be agreed by consensus among the participants
- Each organization will retain its own decision making process
- Annex A recommends allocation of leadership roles to most appropriate organizations
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Operations

Management Group of representatives:
- Monitors new initiatives
- Identifies topics of mutual interest and potential overlaps/conflicts
- Makes recommendations for action to resolve issues and harmonise activities
- Monitors progress
- Facilitates expert participation in the most appropriate development programmes
- Promotes role of the MoU to external organisations

Interoperability Component Framework

Scenarios

Semantics

Terminology

Process models

Data Assembly

Information content/components
- Classification schemes
- Component libraries
- Enterprise data and metadata
- Reference data
- Identifiers

Process definition mechanisms

Information definition mechanisms

Service definition mechanisms

Representation options

Transport options

Networks

Physical representation

Guidelines (Design, Build, Operate)
High Level Framework for interoperability

Key Components for Building Interoperability

Delivering Business Solutions
The key message

The e-Business MoU Management Group works to foster cooperation among standards developers, so as to minimize the risk of divergent and competing approaches to standardization, to avoid duplication of efforts, and to avoid confusion amongst users of e-Business standards.