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# Consortium Standards Bulletin

A ConsortiumInfo.org publication

June 2003

Vol II, No. 6

## NEWS SHORTS

### New Consortia

#### Consortium Brings 'Spirit' to IP Integration

**Anaheim, CA, June 4, 2003** - A new silicon intellectual property (IP) consortium, called Spirit (Structure for Packaging, Integrating, and Re-using IP within Tool Flows) was launched at the Design Automation Conference (DAC). The consortium aims to ensure IP metadata can be easily transferred between IP vendors, EDA companies and semiconductor and systems companies. The consortium will work toward developing a standard IP metadata description in XML code that aims to capture all the IP design, test and integration information and views needed to transfer and exchange IP between companies, so IP users don't have to waste time trying to characterize IP to fit it into their design flows....[Full Story](#)



### New Standards/Specifications

#### RapidIO Expanding to High-Speed Data Plane Applications, PICMG 3.5 Spec Defines RapidIO on AdvancedTCA

**Austin, Texas, June 16, 2003** - In an important roadmap extension of the RapidIO interconnect architecture, the RapidIO Trade Association today announced plans to expand its application focus to fully cover data plane applications for telecommunications networks. The planned extensions will enable lower-cost standards-based products such as multiprotocol switches, 10 gigabit Ethernet switches, edge routers, SAN switches, DSLAMs and IP service switches...The extensions, expected to be finalized in early 2004, will retain compatibility with existing RapidIO switch and endpoint products based on the layered RapidIO architecture....In a separate effort, the PICMG 3.5 subcommittee is being re-organized to map the full range of RapidIO protocols onto the AdvancedTCA platform architecture rather than limiting its attention to data plane oriented protocols alone. A PICMG 2.18 subcommittee, tasked with mapping RapidIO onto the CompactPCI platform, was also recently approved.... [Full Story](#)

#### CSIRO Publishes IETF Internet Draft for Continuous Media Markup Language (CMML)

**XML.coverpages.org, June 13, 2003** - Researchers at CSIRO have published an IETF Internet Draft for "Specification of the Continuous Media Markup Language (CMML)," serving as a companion to the "Specification of the ANNODEX Annotation Format for Time-Continuous Bitstreams." ANNODEX Annotation Format and CMML use XML markup to solve the problem of "dark matter" on the Internet: continuous media files such as audio and video files are not indexed and are usually unsearchable. ...[Full Story](#)

#### UML 2.0 Standard Officially Adopted at OMG Technical Meeting in Paris

**Needham, MA, June 12, 2003** - The Object Management Group™ Analysis and Design Task Force voted to recommend adoption of the Unified Modeling Language™ (UML™) 2.0 Superstructure specification, completing the definition of this major upgrade to the industry's main software modeling notation. Complementary MetaObject Facility™ (MOF™) 2.0 specifications for the MOF Core and XML Metadata Interchange® (XMI®) were also recommended, updating the repository foundation upon which

UML and Model Driven Architecture® (MDA®) tools are built. Alignment of the UML 2.0 metamodel with the MOF metamodel will simplify model interchange via XML, and cross-tool interoperability. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Industry Specifications and Road Map Ready for Secure Mobile Transactions**

**Mobiletransaction.org June 2003** - Mobile Electronic Transactions Ltd (MeT) announced a set of new specifications (MeT Release 2.0) for the mobile industry, i.e. mobile terminal manufacturers and service providers, such as operators, banks, e-commerce actors, system integrators, etc. The new specifications will provide the mobile industry with a common platform for developing secure mobile e-commerce services - particularly in the area of mobile ticketing. The specifications and an associated roadmap of mobile transaction concepts have been developed on the basis of what is the likely path to secure transactions and how mobile commerce will look like in the near future. ...[Full Story](#)

### **OpenTravel Alliance Releases OTA Specification Version 2003A for Travel Related Services**

**XML.coverpages.org, June 10, 2003** - The OpenTravel Alliance has published OTA Specification Version 2003A which defines XML-based messages for the electronic exchange of business information among all sectors of the travel industry. The XML Message Sets package contains 140 XML Schemas corresponding to events and activities in various travel sectors. OTA Version 2003A provides three new message pairs, new sample instance documents, and expanded business scenarios. ...[Full Story](#)

### **OASIS TC Releases Committee Specifications for Service Provisioning Markup Language (SPML)**

**XML.coverpages.org, June 5, 2003** - The OASIS Provisioning Services Technical Committee (PSTC) has adopted draft documents as a Committee Specification set for the Service Provisioning Markup Language (SPML). The TC was chartered to define an XML-based framework for exchanging user, resource, and service provisioning information. The V1.0 specification defines the concepts, operations deployment, and XML schema for an XML-based request and response provisioning protocol. ...[Full Story](#)

### **New ISO Standard Adds Leverage of 'Measurement Management Systems' to ISO 9000 Family**

**ISO.org, May 30, 2003** - A new standard in the ISO 9000 family provides organizations with a model known as a "measurement management system" to help them achieve product quality and manage risk by ensuring that both their measuring equipment and measurement processes are in control and effective... ISO 10012:2003 can be used by organizations to meet the requirements for measurement and measurement process control in ISO 9001:2000 (quality management systems) and ISO 14001:1996 (environmental management systems) - although its use is not a requirement of either - or it can be implemented independently of these standards. ...[Full Story](#)



### **New Initiatives**

#### **BT, Cisco, Deutsche Telekom, Ericsson, Motorola, Nokia and Siemens form RosettaNet Telecommunications Industry Council**

**Santa Ana, CA, June 10, 2003** - RosettaNet announced the formation of a Telecommunications Industry (TC) Council. BT, Cisco, Deutsche Telekom, Ericsson, Motorola, Nokia and Siemens are among the first major industry players to join as founding member companies with the goal of promoting RosettaNet to streamline the exchange of information throughout the global telecommunications trading network. ...[Full Story](#)

#### **ISO Guidelines to Designing Software for Users with Disabilities**

**ISO.org, June 3, 2003** - ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is contributing to a solution in the form of a technical specification for designing software that is easier to use for the elderly, the disabled - and the rest of us... The document will provide a road map to software design that takes into account the varying physical and sensory capabilities of users to ensure that it can be used not only by

people with visual, hearing, motor or cognitive disabilities, but also by the elderly, the temporarily disabled - and by those with no disability at all. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Research Study to Evaluate Financial Impact of the NTTAA**

**New York, June 3, 2003** - The economic impact of increased government reliance on voluntary consensus standards resulting from implementation of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) will be the subject of a new research project organized by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). RTI International, an independent, nonprofit corporation with a history in scientific research and technology development, will conduct the study. ...[Full Story](#)

### **OASIS Works to Establish Classification Standards for Web Security Vulnerabilities**

**Boston, MA, May 28, 2003** - Members of the OASIS standards consortium are uniting to create an open data format to describe Web application security vulnerabilities. The new OASIS Web Application Security (WAS) Technical Committee will produce a classification scheme for Web security vulnerabilities, a model to provide guidance for initial threat, impact and risk ratings, and an XML schema to describe Web security conditions that can be used by both assessment and protection tools. ...[Full Story](#)



### **Other New Work Product**

*The culture of standards leads to useful free technical output being made available by sources beyond just standard setting organizations. Here are two recent examples from sources as diverse as the University of Hong Kong Center for E-Commerce Infrastructure Development and the US National Library of Medicine's National Center for Biotechnology Information:*

### **NLM Establishes Public-Domain XML Suite for Journals**

**Government Computer News, June 13, 2003** - The National Library of Medicine's National Center for Biotechnology Information has released comprehensive Extensible Markup Language document type definitions for exchanging and archiving articles electronically. The DTDs, downloadable from [dtd.nlm.nih.gov](http://dtd.nlm.nih.gov), are broad enough to fit scientific and technical articles as well as the medical ones archived by NLM's PubMed and PubMed Central Web sites. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Hong Kong CECID Donates ebMail Client Software for ebXML Message Handling**

**XML.CoverPages.org, June 12, 2003** - The University of Hong Kong Center for E-Commerce Infrastructure Development (CECID) has announced the release of its ebMail code base under an open source RF license. ebMail is a lightweight toolkit, which enables trading partners to exchange business documents through email or ebXML Message Service (ebMS) over SMTP. The ebMail trimmed-down ebMS handler does not require any application server software or dedicated Internet connection. ...[Full Story](#)

### **MDA Announces UK Mobile Common Short Codes**

**MDA-mobiledata.org, June 2003** - UK mobile network operators and the Mobile Data Association (MDA) announced the introduction of a common scheme for UK premium rate SMS and other services accessible using short codes from mobile networks. Over the past year UK Mobile Network Operators and MDA members O2, Orange, T-Mobile, Vodafone and 3 have been working closely with ICSTIS and Ofcom to enhance the clarity of short codes for customers and to provide opportunities for new media partnering. ...[Full Story](#)



*The infamous "last mile" issue has plagued high-speed data exchange for years. The issue is particularly acute for those in rural areas, where that metaphorical last mile is a lot longer than for an urban customer. Wireless technologies offer one solution, and 3G Americas tracks the penetration of wireless technologies in the western hemisphere.*

### **3G Americas Documents Next-Generation Transition for Rural and Regional Mobile Operators**

**Bellevue, WA, June 09, 2003** - 3G Americas has published a white paper entitled GSM for Rural and Regional Mobile Operators. The report identifies the opportunities for TDMA wireless operators in the Americas, often licensed in the 850 MHz band, to deliver next-generation services using the GSM family of technologies. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Java Web Services Developer Pack V1.2 Supports WS-I, WS-Security, and UBL Applications**

**XMLCoverPages.org, June 5, 2003** - The Version 1.2 release of the Java Web Services Developer Pack (Java WSDP) includes several new features, including JavaServer Faces technology, a WS-I Supply Chain Management sample application, an early access version of XML and Web services security, and a JAXB 1.0.1 sample which processes a UBL order using JAXB-generated classes. Java WSDP is a free integrated toolkit for building, testing, and deploying XML applications. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Mappers Write Cookbook 1.0 for Web services**

**Government Computer News, May 30, 2003** - The Open GIS Consortium Inc. has put together a batch of recipes in Cookbook 1.0, the first in a planned series about Web map services. The consortium's Web Map Service interface specification makes a browser overlay — a maplike raster-graphic image — of multiple data layers from one or more distributed geographic information systems... Like a real cookbook, the 170-page document reproduces thousands of lines of code—recipes for interfaces—put together by various contributors. ...[Full Story](#)

### **The World's First Internet EDI (XML/EDI) Introduction Guidebook is Published**

**Ecom.org, May 28, 2003** - This guidebook describes introductory procedures and know-how intelligibly. It has been developed as a reference work for use mainly by EDI users (such as EDI promoters in enterprises and industries) to introduce XML-based Internet EDI (XML/EDI). The book consists mainly of a classification of Internet EDI, system functions, standardization, notes to design XML/EDI system, scenarios for introducing XML/EDI systems, development and operating fees, effects of XML/EDI, examples of the application and deployment of XML/EDI by companies, B2B standards, and other topics. XML/EDI is a broad mechanism that uses XML syntax rules in a business document or in message elements (e.g., contents of message header). XML/EDI includes not only the simple XML-based Internet EDI, but also a highly functional sophisticated EDI that can incorporate such business-process automatization functions as ebXML and RosettaNet. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Open Source**

### **Technology Companies Work Together to Create a New Distribution Point for Open Source Technology**

**Redwood City, CA, June 13, 2003** - Internet Software Consortium, Inc. (ISC), Iron Systems, Inc. eXchange @ 200 Paul, and FreeBSD.org have pooled resources to create a new FreeBSD Distribution point. ISC will provide the service to the FreeBSD community... It is the second of only two servers that handle ftp.freebsd.org traffic and is the only one serving IPv6. [Full Story](#)



## **Mergers, Alliances & Collaboration**

## **TD-SCDMA Forum joins 3rd Generation Partnership Project**

**Sophia-Antipolis, France, June 24, 2003** - The Organizational Partners of the Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) have approved an application by the TD-SCDMA Forum to become a Market Representation Partner within the project. 3GPP develops specifications for a 3rd Generation mobile technology which is being embodied in communications systems which offer users access to multimedia services on the move, wherever they are in the world... the TD-SCDMA Forum brings to 3GPP its commitment to promote the Time Division – Synchronous Code Division Multiple Access technology (TD-SCDMA) as part of the global family of 3rd Generation technologies. ...[Full Story](#)

## **DMTF and TM Forum Announce a Working Relationship to Enable the Convergence of Telecommunications and Enterprise Management**

**San Jose, Calif. - June 18, 2003** - Distributed Management Task Force, Inc. (DMTF), and TeleManagement Forum (TM Forum) today announced efforts to converge their shared information and modeling approaches to help support telecommunications/enterprise management convergence. The organizations agree that best practices from both telecommunications and enterprise environments can be combined to provide optimal management in all scenarios. ...[Full Story](#)



*Governments around the world are becoming more interested in purchasing goods and services over the Internet. Necessarily, this requires them to take an interest in whether or not there is an adequate standards infrastructure to support such purchasing. In this story, a UK government initiative and an international standards consortium based in the UK are teaming up to further their joint goal of better enabling ecommerce.*

## **OGC Trials 'Common IT Language' to Drive Government eCommerce Agenda**

**BASDA.org, June 18, 2003** - Assessment trials are underway to find the most effective way to allow computers running different purchasing software packages to 'talk to each other'. This is a joint initiative from Office of Government Commerce (OGC) and the Business Applications Software Developers Association (BASDA). The Proof of Concept trials of the common vocabulary (known as XML) are another example of a growing 'joined up' approach between OGC and the IT Industry to establish common IT standards for eProcurement. These standards will enable suppliers and public sector buyers to conduct business online more easily. The objective is to make it easier for government departments to run IT purchasing systems, whilst at the same time ensuring suppliers are able to do business with government online, regardless of which software system they use. ...[Full Story](#)

## **Industry Groups Join Forces to Avert Data Retention Laws**

**Brussels, Belgium, June 4, 2003** - A coalition of industry groups have joined forces to resist government moves towards mandatory data retention prior to meetings of European Telecommunications and Justice and Home Affairs Ministers this week... The coalition of industry groups comprises the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe (UNICE), the European Information, Communications and Consumer Electronics Technology Industry Association (EICTA) and the International Telecommunications Users Group (INTUG). ...[Full Story](#)

## **Tech Groups Join for Standards Push**

**C|Net News.com, June 4, 2003** - In an attempt to coordinate the development of domestic consumer electronics and international networking protocols, two influential technology organizations formalized their relationship and pledged better cooperation. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a Geneva, Switzerland-based standards arm of the United Nations that publishes telecom protocols, said Tuesday it had formalized its relationship with the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), which represents makers of devices such as video games, audio components and home networking gear. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Leading Standards Bodies Formalize Relationship**

**Geneva, Switzerland, June 3, 2003** - ITU has established a formal relationship with the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), an association for consumer electronics manufacturers and retailers. CEA and ITU's leading communications standards development body (ITU-T) hope to help foster a diverse marketplace where products are produced using quality defining standards, and where prices are kept down through the avoidance of proprietary or de-facto standards. ...[Full Story](#)

### **OASIS and RosettaNet Form Standards Development-to-Implementation Alliance Consortia Collaborate to Advance E-Business Standards Across Industries**

**Boston, MA and Santa Ana, CA, June 3, 2003** - Industry standards consortia, OASIS and RosettaNet, formalized plans for a coordinated approach to standards development and implementation that will streamline business-to-business (B2B) integration practices for global supply chain companies. The new alliance leverages the supply chain expertise of RosettaNet with the broad, interoperability focus of OASIS. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Industry Data Standards Groups Working Together**

**Washington DC, April 11, 2003** - The American Petroleum Institute's electronic business standards group, the Petroleum Industry Data Exchange, and the Petrotechnical Open Standards Consortium, Inc. (POSC) have agreed to work together to develop and support technology-neutral electronic business and data standards for the oil and natural gas industry. ...[Full Story](#)



### **Miscellaneous**

*While WiFi and BlueTooth have been getting all of the press attention, another standards-based wireless technology has been advancing which is destined to become even more pervasive (if less noticed) in the consumer space: Radio Frequency Identity (RFID) Tags. With retail leviathan Wal-mart now casting its weight behind this technology (see following article), adoption is bound to take a giant leap forward.*

### **Microsoft Identifies with RFID Tag Organization**

**IDG News Service, June 17, 2003** - AutoID, a not-for-profit organization promoting the use of RFID (radio frequency identification) tags in inventory tracking and management, has won the support of Microsoft for its activities. AutoID Inc., formed last month, is a joint venture of the Uniform Code Council (UCC) and EAN International (EAN), two bodies involved in the standardization of computer-readable product identification technology. The work of UCC and EAN is most obvious in the bar codes found on the packaging of consumer goods. The product code technology uses an XML-based Physical Markup Language to systematically describe products. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Wal-Mart to Throw Its Weight Behind RFID**

**CNET News.com, June 5, 2003** - At the Retail Systems 2003 industry conference in Chicago, Wal-Mart will make a presentation encouraging its top 100 suppliers to start using wireless inventory tracking equipment -- chips affixed to products, and scanners in warehouses -- by 2005. Suppliers are already exploring the use of RFID technology in tracking goods from the factory to warehouses. RFID tags have the potential to streamline and improve inventory management by allowing manufacturers to more efficiently enter and track the flow of goods. ...[Full Story](#)



*While we do not usually include press releases relating to interoperability demonstrations (which are usually for public relations purposes), the following release illustrates a different reason for holding a "plug fest": to identify and rectify interoperability issues. The following event relates to IPsec, a security protocol defined by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)*

### **Securing the Internet – ETSI Organizes Interoperability Testing Event for IPsec**

**Sophia-Antipolis, France, June 16, 2003** - The security of information exchange on the Internet will be strengthened as a result of a testing event in July organized by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI). ETSI's Plugtests service is mounting its first interoperability testing event for IPsec, the increasingly popular security protocol which aims to protect information exchanges at the Internet Protocol (IP) layer. ...[Full Story](#)



*Another example of how the open source culture and the commercial world are becoming increasingly intertwined is provided by the slick new Java community/collaboration site which has been unveiled by Sun Microsystems and two partners.*

### **Sun Microsystems Launches Java.net Portal for Java Technology Collaboration**

**XML.CoverPages.org, June 11, 2003** - Partnering with O'Reilly and CollabNet, Sun Microsystems has opened the Java.net portal designed to expand the Java technology portfolio of applications, tools, and services by promoting conversation and collaboration around development of practical applications. The site hosts a CVS source tree, bug-tracking system, forums, and mail lists; it provides tools for gathering information on what's happening in the industry through RSS news feeds. ...[Full Story](#)

#### **Java.net: The JCP Alternative?**

**InfoWorld, June 9, 2003** - Some observers and industry stakeholders see Sun's creation of its new Java.net portal as a response to the loss in momentum of the Java Community Process (JCP) it had been using to create Java standards. The Java.net portal is therefore not only a strategic action, refocusing some of the Java standards activity back to Sun's control, but it also reinforces the importance to all industry players of a central set of standards mechanisms instead of de facto, individual vendor-based standard-setting practices. ...[Full Story](#)



*While standard setting gets most of the attention, it often takes other types of collaboration and commercial activity to turn standards into commercial opportunities, especially where new products and services are being introduced to the marketplace. The following press releases from Picture Services Network - an affiliate of i3a (the International Imaging Industry Association) show the varied types of efforts that are often necessary to make things happen.*

### **Picture Services Network Selects AT&T for Managed Hosting Services**

**HARRISON, N.Y., June 9, 2003** - Picture Services Network (PSN) today announced the selection of AT&T to provide managed hosting services to the PSN Directory Service, bringing PSN one step closer to delivering an unprecedented new range of online services for digital photography users and retailers. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Picture Services Network, Inc. Selects Systinet to Provide Web Services**

**HARRISON NY, May 21, 2003** - Picture Services Network, Inc. (PSN) today announced the selection of Systinet Corporation to provide its Universal Description, Discovery and Integration (UDDI) registry for the PSN Directory Service. The PSN Directory Service provides a cost-effective means for any camera

manufacturer, photofinishing company, or online photo service to make it easy for their customers to find, access or use digital photography services. ...[Full Story](#)

### **Microsoft Signs OpenCable Agreement**

**Louisville, Colorado, June 5, 2003** - CableLabs today announced that Microsoft Corporation has signed an agreement with CableLabs under which Microsoft has agreed to contribute pertinent intellectual property rights to the OpenCable project, including the OpenCable Application Platform (OCAP) software project. ...[Full Story](#)



*In our last issue, we reported extensively on the evolution of web services standards in a variety of standard setting environments. The following story reports on activity in an even smaller venue: a group of four companies that have been developing a specification, which they hope to successfully submit to a recognized standards body in the near future.*

### **Updated Versions of Web Services Policy (WS-Policy) Specifications**

**XML.CoverPages.org, June 4, 2003** - Three WS-Policy specifications have been updated to version 1.1, superseding those published in December 2002. The Web Services Policy is an initiative of the industry leaders BEA Systems, IBM, Microsoft, and SAP AG to drive and ensure interoperability for the description and communication of Web service policies. The WS-Policy V1.1 authors report their intent to submit the specifications to a standards organization in the near future. ...[Full Story](#)



### **Conferences, Meeting and Events**

#### **Series of Broadband Conferences and Meetings co-located among the ATM Forum, MPLS Forum, and BCD Forum July 8 - 10, 2003, Vienna, Virginia**

Meetings and events offered by ATM Forum, MPLS Forum, and BCD Forum co-located with the meetings of the ATM Forum and the MPLS Forum, offering all attendees the opportunity to learn about related technology areas, and contribute to the synergy and information sharing among complimentary organizations in the industry.

*For more information, see:*  
[ATM Forum, Broadband Exchange Event,](#)

[MPLS Forum, Q3 2003 MPLS and Frame Relay Alliance Technical Meeting,](#)

[BCD Forum, July 2003 Meeting Events](#)

#### **World Standards Week 2003 Sept 29 - Oct 2, 2003, Washington, DC**

The U.S. standardization and conformity assessment community plans a mix of meetings, events and ceremonies, which include an SDO Legal Issues Forum and a Personnel Certification program, among others.

#### **O'Reilly Open Source Software Convention (OSCON) 2003: "Extend and Embrace" July 7 - 11, 2003, Portland, Oregon**

Several Convention Conferences and Tracks focusing on "embracing and extending proprietary software," including: Apache, Applications, Emerging Topics, Java, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Ruby, XML

**The Open Group: Boundaryless Information Flow Grid Computing  
July 21- 25 2003, Boston, MA**

The key to Grid computing is that it enables the aggregation of resources across multiple domains, which introduces new challenges in terms of security and resource management. The Open Group conference will focus on several aspects of Grid computing, and how IT customers can take advantage of Grid to achieve "Boundaryless Information Flow" in a secure, reliable and timely manner for their enterprise.