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# Consortium Standards Bulletin

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## NEWS SHORTS

### Upcoming Events

*Upcoming Events is a new category for the News Shorts section of the **Consortium Standards Bulletin**. It highlights selected upcoming meetings, seminars, and activities pertaining to consortium and standard setting organizations and initiatives*

#### **The Supplier.Net: SME Supplier Adoption Workshop June 4, 2003 - Palo Alto California**

The Open Network for Commerce Exchange (ONCE), a business-to-business (B2B) alliance of electronic trading networks, and CommerceNet, an organization focused on building the world's largest open network of interoperable business services, announced a new initiative aimed at developing a catalog management solution to cost-effectively link suppliers to enterprises for e-sourcing and e-procurement processes.... The organizations are hosting a free workshop on Wednesday, June 4, 2003 to provide interested companies with the opportunity to participate in the project that will develop a low cost simple-to-use software program to enable SMEs to create, manage and publish accurate and meaningful product information.

*For the workshop press release, see: [www.commerce.net/news/2003/052103pr.html](http://www.commerce.net/news/2003/052103pr.html)*

*Additional workshop details are available at: [www.commerce.net/projects/bsn/pilots/supplienet-pilot.html](http://www.commerce.net/projects/bsn/pilots/supplienet-pilot.html)*

*Registration details are available at: [www.commerce.net/events/052803.html](http://www.commerce.net/events/052803.html)*

#### **First Plenary Meeting of the ANSI Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP) June 9 - 10, 2003 - Gaithersburg, MD**

ANSI has issued a meeting announcement for the first plenary meeting of its Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP), a group that was created to accelerate development and adoption of consensus standards critical to homeland security.

*For an article detailing the May 7 meeting whereby the Interim Steering Committee agreed to a Charter, initial priorities, and four coordinating committees, see: [www.ansi.org/news\\_publications/news\\_story.aspx?menuid=7&articleid=396](http://www.ansi.org/news_publications/news_story.aspx?menuid=7&articleid=396)*

#### **W3C Workshop: The Long Term Future of P3P and Enterprise Privacy Languages June 18 - 20, 2003 - Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany**

The results of this workshop will inform W3C's decision making on future P3P strategy, stimulate discussions of new developments and directions for the long-term future of P3P and privacy metadata based solutions in general and facilitate coordination with organizations engaged in related efforts.

*For a related story, see: Call for Participation in W3C P3P and Enterprise Privacy Policy Workshop, [xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-04-30-b.html](http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-04-30-b.html)*

"Middleware That Works" - Free Seminar  
June 23, 2003 - Dallas, TX  
June 24, 2003 - San Francisco, CA

"Middleware That Works" is OMG's nationwide seminar series focusing on CORBA's continuing popularity as an integration platform as shown by many recent new applications. Experts will explain how CORBA works with the Model Driven Architecture(tm) and Web Services, and describe the variety of distributed applications that rely on CORBA today, ranging from small realtime and embedded systems to large enterprise-level servers working in telecommunications, finance, government, manufacturing, and other domains.

For more information about the seminar and logistical details, see: [www.omg.org/middleware/index.htm](http://www.omg.org/middleware/index.htm)



## Consortium and Standards News

### The World of Standards

*The World of Standards is also a new category for the CSB. It highlights the pervasive use and impact of standards, both within and surrounding the consortia arena.*

*Standards are not only important to facilitate the use of technology, but to enable important policy initiatives as well - such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which is intended to help clean up corporate financial impropriety.*

### PwC Report Shows XBRL Still the Wave of the Future

**May 8, 2003** - XBRL is expected to continue its growing influence on business reporting, especially in the post-Sarbanes-Oxley era of enhanced transparency and accountability, reported Big Four accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers. The Technology Forecast: 2003-2005 identifies technology trends and reports that standards such as eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) and enhanced knowledge and integration of systems can provide the real-time information that employees need to operate efficiently, thus boosting investor confidence.

To access the full story and report, see the following link. Please note that to view the text, users must register for the free AccountingWeb service: [www.accountingweb.com/cgi-bin/item.cgi?id=97544](http://www.accountingweb.com/cgi-bin/item.cgi?id=97544)

For the PwC press release and access to the Technology Forecast report, see: [www.pwc.com/extweb/ncpressrelease.nsf/DocID/37426FA75BE33B9885256D1E00462CF5](http://www.pwc.com/extweb/ncpressrelease.nsf/DocID/37426FA75BE33B9885256D1E00462CF5)



*And in another example of the pervasive importance of standards, this article highlights how the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is using XML DTD to encode agricultural metadata for international information exchange..*

### FAO's AgMES Project Releases a New Application Profile for Encoding Metadata

**May 12, 2003** - A new AgMES-AGRIS Application Profile has been published. An initiative of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, the AgMES (Agricultural Metadata Element Set) project addresses issues of semantic standards in the domain of agriculture with respect to description, resource discovery, interoperability, and data exchange. The AGRIS Profile builds upon Dublin Core. The AP includes an XML DTD; XML and RDF Schema are now under development.

For the full story, see: [xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-12-a.html](http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-12-a.html)



*A step in the right direction toward building standards that serve hospitals and patient care*

## **CHeS Applauds Unification of Classification System of Goods and Services**

**Ann Arbor, MI, May 12, 2003** – The Coalition for Healthcare eStandards applauds the selection of the Uniform Code Council, Inc, by the United Nations Development Programme for managing the newly revised United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC). While this code has universal application to all products and services, this new standard offers critical value to the healthcare industry.... standards such as the one established by the UNSPSC will go a long way to reducing the \$11 billion lost in healthcare due to redundant purchasing and the inefficient distribution of medical supplies.

*For the full press release, see: [www.chestandards.org/news/pr030512.asp](http://www.chestandards.org/news/pr030512.asp)*

## **IRS Modernized e-File Team Releases New XML Schemas for Corporate Income Tax**

**From time to time we include news indicating the pervasiveness of the standards-based tools that pervade modern life.**

**May 5, 2003** - A posting from Barr Joan (US IRS Modernized e-File Team) announces the release of XML schemas governing e-filing of income tax information for US corporations. The release includes some 750 XML schema files used by tax preparation software developers and tax preparers in automated e-filing and validation of IRS forms data. The schemas cover TY2002 1120 forms, including the Production Release v1.0 (53 forms) and Candidate Release V2.0 (43 forms).

*For the full story, see: [xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-05-b.html](http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-05-b.html)*



## **Advocacy**

### **World Broadcasting Unions (WBU) United in Concerns for MPEG-4 Licensing**

**Toronto, Canada, May 21, 2003** – The World Broadcasting Unions Technical Committee (WBU-TC), [the] collective technical body for the world's eight broadcasting unions... believes that current licensing arrangements for MPEG4 Visual will be a major deterrent to its use... For MPEG4 Part 10 (H.264), an important successor technology, a licensing structure will be decided in the near future and it must not be a barrier to massive global adoption...

*For the full press release, see: [www.dvb.org/index.php?id=10&nid=28](http://www.dvb.org/index.php?id=10&nid=28)*



## **Certification and Branding**

### **OASIS TC Approves Test Framework Documents for ebXML Messaging Service (ebMS) Version 2.0**

**May 16, 2003** - The OASIS ebXML Implementation, Interoperability and Conformance TC approved the ebXML Messaging Service (ebMS) v2 framework document, test suite, deployment guide templates as Committee Specs. The Test Framework can be used to support conformance testing and interoperability testing in different configurations, from point-to-point testing between business partners, to centralized configurations involving a test center.

*For the full story, see: [xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-16-a.html](http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-16-a.html)*



## **General**

### **Iraq Connects To The World With GSM Mobile Network**

**London, UK, 16 May 2003** - The GSM Association welcomes... the decision to build a GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) network in Iraq. The award of a contract to MCI clearly reflects recognition by the US Government of the value of GSM to Iraq's integration with the rest of the region and the world... The GSM Association has been working with the US Government, MCI and its suppliers to facilitate the rapid installation and operation of the GSM network to provide immediate support to reconstruction and humanitarian efforts in Iraq.

For the full press release, see: [www.gsmworld.com/news/press\\_2003/press\\_14.shtml](http://www.gsmworld.com/news/press_2003/press_14.shtml)



*The Global Standards Infrastructure involves many layers of organizations, and their influence overlaps. Coordination among these organizations is important to make sure that standards are additive in their effect, rather than conflicting.*

### **Global Standardization Groups Work to Enhance Collaboration on Communications Issues: Meetings focused on "Information on the Move"**

**Ottawa, Canada, May 1, 2003** - Senior representatives of the world's leading radio, information and communications technologies standards organizations met 27 April through May 1, 2003, in Ottawa, Canada, in a continuing show of support for the world-wide communications standards development processes and a renewed commitment towards improving communication collaboration between their respective organizations. The Eighth Global Standards Collaboration meeting (GSC-8)... included the Global Telecommunications Standards Collaboration (GTSC-1) and Global Radio Standards Collaboration (GRSC-1)... Areas of particular emphasis for GTSC and GRSC included the development of Next Generation Networks, security of networks, emergency communications services, broadband access, beyond third-generation mobile technology, with agreement on many other related topics and joint actions... The PSOs [also] shared information about Intellectual Property Rights issues worldwide, particularly copyrights related to software code reflected in standards and growing erosion of intellectual property rights protection in some venues outside of the PSO standardization process.

For the full release, see:

[www.etsi.org/frameset/home.htm?/pressroom/Previous/2003/GSC8\\_Canada.htm](http://www.etsi.org/frameset/home.htm?/pressroom/Previous/2003/GSC8_Canada.htm)



## **New Consortia**

### **Auto Industry Group to Upgrade Supply Chain with XML**

**May 13, 2003** - Auto industry e-services exchange Covisint has launched an IT consortium that aims to replace existing Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) messaging with more flexible -- and less costly -- XML systems... Southfield, Mich.-based Covisint said the industry consortium includes automakers DaimlerChrysler AG, Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp., and parts and technology vendors Johnson Controls Inc., Lear Corp. and Delphi Corp... the group is being launched to help find cheaper and more efficient ways for automakers to communicate directly with vendors about parts availability, engineering concerns and other issues... The specifications for the project are being developed in cooperation with the Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)...

For the full article, see: [www.computerworld.com/softwaretopics/erp/story/0,10801,81193,00.html](http://www.computerworld.com/softwaretopics/erp/story/0,10801,81193,00.html)

For the full Covisint press release, see: [covisint.com/about/pressroom/pr/2003/2003.MAY.12.shtml](http://covisint.com/about/pressroom/pr/2003/2003.MAY.12.shtml)



## **New Initiatives**

## Major Internet Standards Group Working On Fast Plan To Can Spam

**May 25, 2003** - The Anti-Spam Research Group (ASRG) is working on a plan to end spam... The group is affiliated with the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), which sets the standards for the fundamental technologies that make the Internet possible...The ASRG expects quick results, with initial technologies that will take a big bite out of spam being deployed within months, and other key technologies being deployed in one to two years. Within two years, ASRG... chairman Paul Judge said he expects to see the proposed "consent-based communications framework" in place for e-mail, although work would be ongoing to keep it up-to-date...

For the full story, see: [www.internetweek.com/breakingNews/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=10100236](http://www.internetweek.com/breakingNews/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=10100236)

## OASIS Members Form Web Application Security Technical Committee

**May 13, 2003** - A new OASIS Web Application Security Technical Committee will attempt to unite industry consensus and provide standards for web security vulnerabilities. The TC will extend the work of the Open Web Application Security (OWASP) VulnXML project that has been established for over a year. The TC will develop a classification scheme for web security vulnerabilities, threat and risk models, and an XML schema to describe web security conditions.

For the full story, see: [xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-13-b.html](http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-13-b.html)

For more information from OASIS regarding the Web Application Security TC, see: <http://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/members/200305/msg00007.html>

## Group Works On E-Forms Standards

**May 7, 2003** - A new team of US government and industry officials will spend the next five months evaluating standards for electronic forms, a CIO Council member said yesterday. The E-Forms for E-Government project was one of several pilots that involve XML and Web services. About forty government and industry representatives have joined the E-Forms for E-Government effort.

For the full story, see: [http://gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/22014-1.html](http://gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/22014-1.html)



*While we do not usually include press releases regarding the advancement of a specification, as compared to the launch or completion of a process, the following report illustrates the extraordinary range and volume of the output of the W3C; many other projects have also advanced within the W3C in May as well:*

## W3C Releases Ten Working Drafts for XQuery, XSLT, and XPath

**May 06, 2003** - Through collaborative and coordinated effort between W3C's XML Query Working Group and XSL Working Group, a collection of ten working draft specifications has been issued for public review. "XQuery 1.0 and XPath 2.0 Data Model" and "XQuery 1.0 and XPath 2.0 Functions and Operators" are last call working drafts. XPath 2.0, XSLT 2.0, XQuery 1.0, and other specifications are dependent upon the data model, functions, and operators defined in these two working drafts.

For the full release, see: <http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-06-a.html>

For a related story, see: [http://news.com.com/2100-1032\\_3-1000086.html](http://news.com.com/2100-1032_3-1000086.html)

## OASIS Forms Business-Centric Methodology Technical Committee

**May 05, 2003** - OASIS has issued a call for participation in a newly formed Business-Centric Methodology Technical Committee. The TC members plan to create a specification, which will provide business managers with a set of clearly defined methods with which to acquire agile and interoperable e-

business information systems. The interoperability specification design will build upon existing research and technology such as the project work developed at DFAS.

*For the full story and proposal details, see: <http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-05-a.html>*

*For more information from OASIS regarding the initiative, see:  
<http://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/members/200305/msg00001.html>*

*To access the Business-Centric Methodology TC website, see:  
[http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc\\_home.php?wg\\_abbrev=bcm](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=bcm)*



## **New Standards/Specifications**

### **OASIS TC Approves Version 1.1 Specifications for Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML)**

**May 27, 2003** - OASIS has announced the approval of Version 1.1 Committee Specifications for the Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML). SAML is an XML-based framework for exchanging security information. The V1.1 release includes the SAML XML Assertion and Protocol Schemas, along with prose documentation: "Assertions and Protocol," "Bindings and Profiles," "Security and Privacy Considerations," "Conformance Program Specification," and "Glossary."

*For the full story, see: <http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-27-b.html>*

### **UDDI v2 Ratified as OASIS Open Standard: Building Block for Web Services Advances Within Open Process**

**Boston, MA, May 20, 2003** - The OASIS interoperability consortium announced that its members have approved the Universal Description, Discovery and Integration specification (UDDI) version 2.0 as an OASIS Open Standard, a status that signifies the highest level of ratification. UDDI enables companies and applications to dynamically publish, locate, and use Web services.

*For the full story, see: [www.oasis-open.org/news/oasis\\_news\\_05\\_20\\_03.php](http://www.oasis-open.org/news/oasis_news_05_20_03.php)*

*For a link to the UDDI Technical Committee, see:  
[www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc\\_home.php?wg\\_abbrev=uddi-spec](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=uddi-spec)*

*For a related article, see: [http://news.com.com/2100-1012\\_3-1008085.html?tag=cd\\_mh](http://news.com.com/2100-1012_3-1008085.html?tag=cd_mh)*

### **AdsML Consortium Creates Electronic Data Exchange Standard for Advertising Industry**

**May 20, 2003** - The AdsML Consortium has announced an XML-based AdsML 1.0 specification, which will cover the means by which data is exchanged for all kinds of advertising, in all media and through all stages of an advertisement's lifecycle. The specification will define a set of business process models and an 'AdsML Envelope' XML message format that supports packaging, transmission, verification, validation, and routing of advertising content and related metadata.

*For the full story, see: <http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-20-a.html>*

## **Standardized Interface For Smart Card Personalization Becomes A Reality**

**May 13, 2003** – GlobalPlatform... has defined a standard interface for the exchange of data between a personalization data preparation system and a personalization bureau. The new GlobalPlatform Load and Personalization Interface Specification v1.0, will, for the first time, enable Issuers to communicate in a standard way with different service providers during the personalization process... The GlobalPlatform Load and Personalization Interface Specification defines containers that allow personalized data to be transmitted, for GlobalPlatform multi-application cards or single application native static cards. The Specification also defines containers that allow personalization bureaus to use job related data transmission for batch preparation in accordance with the technical environment, job priority, cost or other Issuer criteria.

*For the full press release, see: [www.globalplatform.org/pressRelease.asp?ID=125](http://www.globalplatform.org/pressRelease.asp?ID=125)*

## **IBM's Enterprise Privacy Authorization Language (EPAL)**

**May 9, 2003** - Research at IBM's Zurich Research Laboratory has led to the publication of an Enterprise Privacy Authorization Language (EPAL) specification. EPAL is a formal language to specify fine-grained enterprise privacy policies. It concentrates on the core privacy authorization while abstracting from all deployment details such as data model or user-authentication. EPAL will be discussed at a June 2003 W3C P3P and Enterprise Privacy Policy Workshop.

*For the full story, see: <http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-09-a.html>*

## **W3C Comes Clean with SOAP 1.2 Standards**

**May 7, 2003** - The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) releases the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) Version 1.2 Proposed Recommendation, consisting of the SOAP 1.2 Messaging Framework; SOAP 1.2 Adjuncts, and a Primer. SOAP is a lightweight protocol intended for exchanging data across the Web using XML in a way that is independent of any one operating system or messaging protocol.

*For the full story, see: [www.masshightech.com/displayarticledetail.asp?Art\\_ID=62508](http://www.masshightech.com/displayarticledetail.asp?Art_ID=62508)*



## **Other New Releases**

### **W3C Index of Translations Showcases RDF and Internationalization Technologies**

**May 13, 2003** - W3C has announced a new RDF application, which generates static XHTML documents and dynamic views for indexes of translated W3C Technical Reports. Showcasing W3C Semantic Web, XML, and internationalization technologies, data for volunteer translations of W3C technical reports and related documents are now maintained in RDF encoded in XML. The application generates XHTML and RDF-encoded XML files using Python scripts and the RDFLib module.

*For the full story, see: <http://xml.coverpages.org/ni2003-05-13-a.html>*

### **IMTC Fights Patent Chaos in Multimedia Standardization**

**Geneva, Switzerland, May 6, 2003** - The International Multimedia Telecommunications Consortium (IMTC) announced the creation of a "Historical" archive relevant to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). This archive is designed to support the protection of its members against possible patent raiders, while assisting in enforcing the legitimate patent interests of its members... The new historical IMTC archive will contain information relevant to multimedia technology and standards, documenting the standardization process, as well as R&D efforts in the field of multimedia telecommunications.... there is an increasing need for such protection since patent raiders of multimedia standards are increasingly trying to reap the benefits of the efforts of others in this highly complex and competitive area of communications... The financial risks for vendors and operators can be enormous, running into many millions of dollars.... By

clarifying the IPR situation for approved multimedia standards, the IMTC promotes the adoption of new technologies and the development of standard multimedia telecommunications products.

For the full story, see: <http://www.imtc.org/pressrel/press050603.htm>

### **WS-I Issues First Interoperability Tests**

**May 6, 2003** - The WS-I has released its first set of interoperability testing tools aimed at helping vendors and enterprise developers ensure compliance with its Basic Profile 1.0, the key to ensuring their implemented web services will work across Java, C#/.NET and legacy environments. The tools are The Web Service Communication Monitor ("Monitor") and The Web Service Profile Analyzer ("Analyzer"). Developed by WS-I's Test Tools Working Group, they come in implementations for both C# and Java, and can be used on any web services platform.

For the full story, see: <http://idevnews.com/IntegrationNews.asp?ID=65>



### **Standard Setting Practices**

#### **Consumer Representatives in Standards Development to Benefit from Updated Guidance Document**

**May 12, 2003** - ISO and IEC have published a new guidance document for use by those who represent consumer interests in the standardization work of not only ISO and IEC, but also at the national level and to assist those who recommend the use of International Standards.

For the full story, see:  
[www.ansi.org/news\\_publications/news\\_story.aspx?menuid=7&articleid=400](http://www.ansi.org/news_publications/news_story.aspx?menuid=7&articleid=400)



### **Mergers and Combinations**

#### **UCC Finalises Agreement with MIT; Forms Joint Venture with EAN International to Drive Standards for Electronic Product Code (EPC)<sup>TM</sup> Network**

**May 21, 2003** - EAN International and the Uniform Code Council, Inc. (UCC), leaders in facilitating efficient international business, announced today... the intention to establish AutoID, Inc., a not-for-profit organization that will develop and oversee commercial and technical standards for the Electronic Product Code (EPC)<sup>TM</sup> Network. The EPC<sup>TM</sup> Network, based on research conducted at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), uses radio frequency in combination with a network system to allow items or products to be identified.

For the full press release, see: [www.ean-int.org/](http://www.ean-int.org/)

#### **BSI Shaping the Future in Greater China**

**May 15, 2003** - The BSI Group today announced its acquisition of 100% ownership of BSI Pacific Ltd, formerly run as a 50:50 joint-venture with Intertek Testing Services (ITS), a well-known product testing and inspection company... The acquisition of BSIP enhances BSI's capability within Asia and provides an enhanced platform, which opens the way for concerted investment and a long-term commitment to growth. BSI plans to do this through the delivery of Management Systems' entire portfolio of products within the quality, environmental and risk arenas across multiple industry sectors.

For the full press release, see:  
[www.bsi-global.com/Corporate/News+Room/GRBSIPacificLtd.xalter](http://www.bsi-global.com/Corporate/News+Room/GRBSIPacificLtd.xalter)