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# Consortium Standards Bulletin

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## THE REST OF THE NEWS

Every day, we scan the web for all of the news and press releases that relate to standards, and aggregate that content at the [News Section](#) of ConsortiumInfo.org. For up to date information, bookmark our News page, or take advantage of our RSS feed: <http://www.consortiuminfo.org/news/rss/>. Updates are usually posted on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The following are just a few of the many stories from the past month that you can find digested at ConsortiumInfo.org.

### New Consortia

**A gaggle of new consortia:** One reliable barometer of whether the technology sector is going places or stagnating is the number of new consortia being launched. By that measure, the technology economy is on a definite uptick, with new organizations being launched in the last few weeks in areas as diverse as external memory, VoIP, holographic DVD storage, PHP, and grid computing. Three of the new organizations identified security concerns as a primary focus of their projected activities. Not to be outdone, an existing standards development organization launched a major new initiative as well: the Aerospace Industries Association announced the formation of the Strategic Standardization Forum for Aerospace.

### PISMO Advisory Council Launched to Define External Memory Interface Standard

**TMCnet.com, SUNNYVALE, CA, February 7, 2005--** Spansion, ARM, NanoAmp, SMedia, Spreadtrum and Toshiba Form Organization to Streamline Memory Validation and Test. A group of leading semiconductor companies today announced the launch of the PISMO Advisory Council, the industry's first organization focused on streamlining system-level memory validation and test. The group will define a single, board-level interface standard that allows designers to use a variety of memory devices on development platforms from multiple vendors in a plug-and-play fashion. The new PISMO (Platform Independent Storage Module) standard is expected to enable the more rapid deployment of increasingly powerful and affordable mobile telecommunications, computing and consumer products. ...[Full Story](#)



### VoIP Leaders Form Alliance for VoIP Security Research and Testing

**VOIPSA, Austin, TX, February 7, 2005--** The industry's first Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Security Alliance was launched today in conjunction with leading VoIP vendors, providers, security researchers, and thought leaders to discover and reduce VoIP security risks. Some of the charter members include 3Com, Alcatel, Avaya, Codenomicon, Columbia University, Ernst and Young's Guiliani Advanced Security Center, Insightix, NetCentrex, Qualys, SecureLogix, Siemens, Sourcefire, Southern Methodist University, Spirent, Symantec, the SANS Institute, Tenable Network Security, and TippingPoint. A complete list of members can be accessed at [www.voipsa.org](http://www.voipsa.org). The growing convergence of voice and data networks only serves to exacerbate and magnify the security risks of today's traditional prevalent cyber attacks. Successful attacks against a combined voice and data network can cripple an enterprise, halt communications required for productivity, and result in irate customers and lost revenue. ...[Full Story](#)



## **New industry consortium to promote holographic storage**

**PC PRO, February 4, 2005--** The newly formed Holographic Versatile Disc (HVD) Alliance has been established to promote holographic-based storage for a new generation of optical discs. Blue laser-based Blu-ray is already set to replace current red laser-based DVD technology, but holographic storage is getting ready for its spot in the light. Whereas Blu-ray should enable 27GB of storage on a single-layer disc (about 13 hours of standard-definition television), the HVD Alliance is anticipating discs storing multiple terabytes of data, written at a rate of 1Gbit/sec. The members of the HDV Alliance comprise Optware, CMC Magnetics, Fuji Photo Film, Nippon Paint, Pulstec Industrial and Toagose, reports the EE Times. The group is seeking to "accelerate development and standardization of the HVD' system." ...[Full Story](#)



## **PHP Consortium Tackles Third-Party Application Security**

**By: Ryan Naraine**

**eWeek, February 1, 2005 --** Worried that the credibility of the PHP scripting language is being hurt by high-profile security flaws in third-party applications, an international group of coding experts is taking matters into their own hands. The group, which includes Zend Engine developer Andi Gutmans, has formed the PHP Security Consortium with ambitious plans to promote secure programming practices among developers and set up a one-stop shop for documentation, tools and standards. ...[Full Story](#)



## **New Consortium Promotes Grid Computing For Businesses**

**By: Aaron Ricadela**

**InformationWeek, January 24, 2005--** A group of technology companies including Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Intel, and Sun Microsystems Monday said they've formed a new consortium to develop and promote grid-computing software for businesses. The group, called the Globus Consortium, will try to promote industry standards and develop new features for grid-computing software that would make it more attractive to large companies. HP, IBM, Intel, and Sun have invested \$250,000 each, according to Ian Foster, a consortium board member who helped develop the original grid-computing software, the Globus Toolkit. The other participants in the consortium are Nortel Networks and [startup] Univa Corp. ...[Full Story](#)



## **AIA Forms Strategic Standardization Forum Following Groundbreaking Report**

**AIA-Aerospace Press Release, Arlington, VA, January 28, 2005--** A newly created forum will provide sweeping guidance of aerospace manufacturing standardization, the most ambitious such undertaking in any industry worldwide. The Aerospace Industries Association Executive Committee approved the creation of the Strategic Standardization Forum for Aerospace, which will provide leadership, guide activities, and address related issues, officials said. The move comes after the release of the industry's Report on the Future of Aerospace Standardization, one of the first follow-ups to the 2002 President's Commission on the future of the U.S. Aerospace Industry. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Pacific Rim Update**

**East is East:** ICT standards have traditionally been developed exclusively in the western world and implemented in the East, but those days may be waning as China and its Pacific Rim neighbors begin to play the standards card. The wireless standards face-off between Intel et al. and the Chinese

government last year was the first standards story involving the Far East to grab business headlines, but other less noticed standards news continues to emanate from countries such as Japan, Korea, and China. Look for this trend to not only continue, but also pick up steam, with the impact going beyond the advent of new players on the scene. China, in particular, has its own vision of where it wishes to go, the market power to back it up, and a commitment at the government level to not only devise a standards strategy, but to fund the efforts needed to create and promote the standards it sees as being necessary to achieve its goals. The following selection of items showcases standards news from Japan, China, Taiwan, and even geographically tiny, but economically powerful Singapore.

#### **Japan Offers ISO a Gen 2 Alternative** **By: Mary Catherine O'Connor**

**RFID Journal, February 10, 2005--** As EPCglobal worked on developing a second-generation air-interface protocol, the goal was to create one standard that could serve for all classes of UHF RFID tags with worldwide regulatory compliance. Although the process was not easy or quick, the group did manage to declare its Gen 2 protocol a standard and work around a sticky issue regarding 8 bits of code (see Gen 2 Finds a Path to ISO Approval) in time for the ISO standard's committee meeting held Jan. 24-25 in Boca Raton, Fla. Here, EPCglobal submitted the technical specifications for its Gen 2 protocol as a candidate for approval under the ISO 18000-6 standard. ...[Full Story](#)



#### **Standards update: Modbus Becomes Chinese standard; PC/104 Consortium to adopt EPIC spec**

**Control Engineering, February 10, 2005--** Ubiquitous Modbus network protocol has enjoyed wide de facto application in China. Recently it has gained official status in that country, being adopted as a standard in the People's Republic of China (PRC). Meanwhile, the PC/104 Embedded Consortium agreed to adopt the new EPIC Specification to widen support of embedded platforms that embrace PC/104 technology. More details about each development follow. The Standardization Administration of China (SAC) has formally launched three standards for industrial automation in the PRC-as announced by Modbus-IDA, the international organization for suppliers, implementers, and users of Modbus and its companion protocols. The new Chinese standards comprise three parts of "Modbus Industrial Automation Network Specification," namely: ...[Full Story](#)



#### **IDA to take S'pore-developed IT standard global** **By: Isabelle Chan**

**CNET Asia, February 8, 2005--** The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore wants to make its business continuity and disaster recovery standard internationally accepted. Launched in December last year, the SS507 standard serves to differentiate BC/DR (business continuity/disaster recovery) service providers and provide guidance for organizations in selecting the best-fit providers. It was developed by IDA and the Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Working Group of the Information Technology Standards Committee in Singapore. "IDA and our industry partners will promote the standard internationally, especially to regional BC/DR service providers and standards associations," an IDA spokesperson told CNETAsia. ...[Full Story](#)



#### **New Memory Card Format Compatible with SD, MMC Hardware** **By: Ed Hardy**

**Brighthand.com, January 26, 2005--** A consortium of Taiwanese companies has proposed a new memory card format. MÅ1/4-Cards will be able to fit in slots designed for SD and MMC cards, but will be cheaper to make. The new cards will be less expensive to make because they will be simpler than SD cards. "The SD I/O is not so easily used. It requires a lot of effort to develop, especially in terms of

software," Gordon Yu told the EE Times. Mr. Yu's company makes SD cards under the name Pretec. The new cards will use the USB protocol to handle input/output. ...[Full Story](#)



## Europe Update

**West is West:** *While the Asian Tiger was roaring, the European Union was continuing to struggle over whether to permit or hold the line against software patents, and with how to address privacy concerns related to RFID technology. In both cases, the European view is more conservative than that which has prevailed in the United States. In the case of software patents, the floodgates were unleashed in the U.S. more than twenty years ago, while in the area of Internet and Web privacy, the legislative response in America to date has been less stringent than across the water. Indeed, not only Wal-Mart but the Department of Defense have opted for RFID first, and privacy second. Our first selection below reports on the privacy debate, while the two items that follow track the ongoing saga in the EU over whether – or not – to broaden the criteria for patent protection. Europe may well chart a different course regarding software patents, and can be expected to impose privacy protection rules regarding the use of RFID tags that are more conservative than those that are likely to evolve in the U.S.*

### The European Union Works Out RFID Privacy Legislation

By: Laurie Sullivan

**InformationWeek, February 6, 2005**-- The European Union is exploring ways to protect citizens' privacy with regards to personal data gathered using radio-frequency identification technology. The union created a working group that in mid-January published its first assessment--Working Document 105. The group is asking individuals to E-mail comments on its findings by March 31 to [market-privacy-consultations@cec.eu.int](mailto:market-privacy-consultations@cec.eu.int). The document outlines RFID's potential in a variety of business sectors, including health care, retail, pharmaceutical, and logistics, and calls attention to the need for companies to comply with principals in EU privacy directives whenever personal data is collecting using RFID technology. The document also guides makers of RFID tags, readers, and applications, as well as standards bodies, on their responsibility to develop privacy-compliant technology. ...[Full Story](#)



### EU Lawmakers May Rewrite Contested IT Patent Plan

By: Matthew Broersma

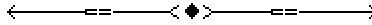
**eWeek, January 21, 2005**-- A fresh round of behind-the-scenes maneuvering around the European Union's efforts to pass IT patent legislation has left the European Parliament with a narrow window of opportunity to scrap the current, highly controversial text and start over from scratch, according to sources. The EU Council quietly planned to adopt the proposal (termed a Common Position) on Monday, according to sources. But Poland, which intervened to stop a planned vote last month, late this week stepped in again to delay approval, with the result that adoption won't happen until Jan. 31, sources said. ...[Full Story](#)



### Global Software Patent Scrap Continues, EU Restarts Process

By: Matthew Broersma

**eWeek, February 3, 2005**-- The European Parliament's legal affairs committee, called JURI, has voted nearly unanimously to ask for a restart to the process around the European Union's proposed IT patents legislation. The decision will continue the turmoil over differing software patent law in two of the world's major technology markets. As U.S. software companies spend millions defending or attacking intellectual property holdings, European vendors are taking advantage of their easier legal climate for software, especially smaller companies and open-source projects. ...[Full Story](#)



## Public Advocacy

**Listen to me:** *Few consortia engage in lobbying, but their older brethren in the accredited standards development community frequently do. As the following article demonstrates, a standard setting organization can be an effective venue to marshal the high-level cooperation of an industry. In this case, the CEOs of Alcatel, Lucent, Motorola, QUALCOMM, and Siemens.*

### TIA Member CEOs Provide Vision of Converged, IP Future for House Panel

**TIA Press Release, Arlington, VA, February 9, 2005--** Testifying before the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, chief executives of TIA member companies today outlined their organizations' views on convergence in the communications industry, broadband deployment and the continued emergence of Internet protocol (IP) networks and technologies. Witnesses [testified in hearings entitled]: "How Internet Protocol-Enabled Services are Changing the Face of Communications: A View from Technology Companies..." [Full Story](#)



## Intellectual Property

**Whew!** *Those who were part of the marathon effort by the W3C to revise their patent policy heaved a sigh of relief when that task was completed – after some three years of effort. Now it's the turn of those who stuck it out through the revision of W3C peer organization OASIS, which announced the completion of its own set of revisions earlier this month after a multi-year effort. The new version of the OASIS Intellectual Property Policy has been updated in numerous respects, and has also been crafted to offer a novel three choices of commitments that participants in a given process may elect. The first article below reports in detail on the mechanics of the new policy and the transition path from the old to the new while the second focuses on the features of the new policy that make it more welcoming to open source developers.*

### OASIS revamps IP policy to avoid hidden patent charges

**By: Robert McMillan**

**ComputerWorld, February 8, 2005--** After more than two years of review and deliberation, a key Web standards consortium has revised its intellectual property policy, forcing contributors to declare whether they plan to collect royalties on work they submit to the organization's technical committees. The consortium, the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS), will implement the change on April 15. Under the new policy, the organization's existing technical committees will have two years to declare whether the standards they are developing are being released under "royalty free" terms, which do not allow patent holders to charge for their intellectual property (IP). Committees formed after April 15 must declare their IP policy upon creation. ...[Full Story](#)



### Warming up to open source

**By: Paul Festa**

**ZDNet, February 9, 2005--** OASIS (the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards) on Monday released its updated intellectual property policy, which will take effect April 15. In a statement, OASIS said it made the revision "to enhance support for open standards development." That, OASIS members said, meant a friendlier environment for open-source developers, whose licenses prevent them from using technologies that have royalties attached. ...[Full Story](#)



**Rambus rides again:** *Its been over four years since Rambus last brought a new infringement suit. Instead, the news has focused on the unsuccessful efforts of Infineon Technologies to sustain an early jury verdict against Rambus when that decision was appealed, and on the equally unsuccessful efforts (so far) of the Federal Trade Commission to convict Rambus on charges relating to the same course of behavior. Now Rambus is back on the attack, and its quarry once again includes some of the defendants (Infineon Technologies and Hynix Semiconductor) in the still ongoing original litigation.*

## **Rambus files new memory suit**

**By: Michael Kanellos**

**CNET News.com, January 25, 2005--** The Los Altos, Calif.-based chip designer announced on Tuesday that it had filed suit against Hynix Semiconductor, Taiwan's Nanya Technology and Infineon Technologies, as well as the latter two companies' joint venture, Inotera Memories, for allegedly violating its intellectual property in producing DDR2 DRAM, which started to get incorporated into PCs last year. The suit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, alleges that the GDDR2 and GDDR3 memory found on graphics cards violates its patents. The lawsuit will likely make memory executives shiver. Rambus has pending suits against Infineon, Hynix and Micron that allege that DDR DRAM--the most common type of memory used in PCs for the last several years--produced by these companies violates its intellectual property. These companies, in turn, have filed countersuits alleging that the patents are invalid and were obtained fraudulently. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Open Source**

**So, "open standards" means what, exactly?** *Those in the standards community have haggled for decades over the proper definition of "open standards," without arriving at an exact definition that everyone would agree upon. Now a new dynamic has been introduced into the mix, as the open source community weighs in with its own opinions on the subject, and major vendors such as IBM are promoting their own vision of what "open standards" should mean. The first article below shows that the open source community is taking the question seriously, as the Open Source Initiative announces that henceforth it will concern itself not only with what is (and isn't) an "open source license," but also what should and should not qualify as an open standard in the context of an open source environment. The second article demonstrates that the industry will continue to look to OSI as the definitive arbiter of open source licensing.*

## **Open Source Initiative Changes Leaders**

**By: Steven J. Vaughan-Nichols**

**eWeek, February 1, 2005--** The Open Source Initiative announced Tuesday that it is replacing its longtime president, Eric S. Raymond, and other officers. The moves are part of the group's plans to expand its activities beyond its management of the Open Source Definition and the certification of open-source licenses to include creating a registry of open-source software projects and defining "open standards" that are consistent with open source. The OSI is the group behind open-source licenses. Approval from the OSI is necessary before any software license can be considered open-source. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Sun License to Give Developers Patent-Use Rights**

**By: Peter Galli**

**eWeek, January 19, 2005--** The Open Source Initiative has approved Sun Microsystems' CDDL (Common Development and Distribution License), paving the way for the Santa Clara, Calif., company to proceed with its plan to release its Solaris operating system as an open-source project. But if Sun does use the CDDL for its Open Solaris project, as is expected, one of this license's benefits for developers



and the open-source community is that "with the CDDL, if you read it carefully, Sun will convey all of its patents to the community, and not just 500 like IBM recently did, " a source close to the company told eWEEK. Sun also is considering open-sourcing its JES (Java Enterprise System) under the CDDL. "Everything that is built at Sun would fall under the CDDL" if that happened, the source said. ...[Full Story](#)



**Hi Ho, Open Software, Away!** *for years, high-minded law school graduates have forsaken lucrative big firm jobs to work in legal aid clinics to help the poor. Now there will be another alternative career path, with the founding (by open source advocate Eben Moglen) and funding (by Open Source Development Labs) of a legal center to provide free legal services to needy open source development projects.*

### **Lawyers ride shotgun for open source** **By: Stephen Shankland**

**CNET.com, January 31, 2005--** A prominent intellectual property lawyer in the open-source movement is helping launch a center to provide free services to developers who use the collaborative programming method. Eben Moglen, a Columbia University law professor who has represented the Free Software Foundation in legal cases, said that he will help run the new Software Freedom Law Center, which is set to be announced on Tuesday. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Standards and Society**

**In all things, interoperability:** *Enabling things to work together has been the role of standards from day one. As the following selection of articles demonstrate, in the increasingly high tech world in which we live, the urgent need for interoperability standards arises in more and more settings.*

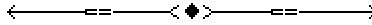
### **XML Levels Educational Playing Field for Blind & Visually Impaired**

**BusinessWire, New York, NY, February 8, 2005--** For the blind and visually impaired new technology has opened doors to education. They can listen to a textbook on a computer or read using refreshable braille. Yet students with print disabilities needed to wait six months or longer for an accessible textbook to be made available. This will change with the reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act (IDEA). The act, signed December 3 by President Bush, gives students with print disabilities equal access to educational materials as their sighted peers. Key to the act is requiring a standard file format for each textbook. This makes conversion into accessible formats such as braille, large print or digital text much faster. ...[Full Story](#)



### **Liberty Alliance Response to National Health Information Network RFI**

**The Cover Pages, January 18, 2005--** Liberty Alliance, the global consortium for open federated identity standards and identity Web-based services, today announced that it had submitted a formal response to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONCHIT) Request for Information (RFI) on "Development and Adoption of a National Health Information Network." The response was submitted on behalf of Liberty's 150-member base, and addresses possible methods by which widespread interoperability and health information exchange can be deployed and operated on a sustainable basis. Liberty also participated in a joint filing authored by 13 organizations, including the Markle Foundation, HIMSS, the AMIA, ANSI and a number of other organizations. Liberty's federated identity standards and business guidelines focus on privacy, confidentiality and security, offering the flexible, secure and open infrastructure that is required to support and manage online services and transactions that are necessary in healthcare. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Helping ATMs move into the 21st century**

**By: Tracy Kitten**

**ATM Marketplace.com, January 21, 2005--** Banking and modern communications technology have rarely been synonymous, at least not until recently. Interactive Financial eXchange, or IFX, is a messaging standard that makes it easier for delivery channels such as ATMs, teller stations and voice response systems to communicate with each other. It is bringing the banking industry into the 21st Century, according to industry experts like Rick Duvall, senior product manager for ACI Worldwide and a member of the IFX Forum ATM/POS Work Group. ...[Full Story](#)



## **EMERGENCY INTEROPERABILITY CONSORTIUM ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO PROMOTE DATA SHARING**

**Directions Magazine, Washington, D.C., January 17, 2005--** The Emergency Interoperability Consortium (EIC) announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to promote the development and proliferation of data sharing standards for emergency response. Thought to be the first of its kind between DHS and a non-government entity, the agreement establishes an alliance between the organizations to jointly promote the design, development, release, and use of XML standards to help solve data sharing problems commonly encountered during emergency operations. The initial term of the agreement is three years. "This DHS/EIC alliance is an important step towards realizing the potential of a public/private partnership to rapidly develop and proliferate valid and commercially sustainable interoperability standards," commented Matt Walton, EIC chairman and vice chairman and founder of E Team, Inc., a Los Angeles-based manufacturer of crisis management software. ...[Full Story](#)



## **Standards and Your Business**

**Tag, you're it:** February is the month that the SEC officially began accepting filings utilizing the eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL), an XML schema optimized for business reporting use. The move is being welcomed not only by the SEC, as noted in the first article below, but by savvy investors and analysts as well, as indicated in the second item.

### **After Sarbanes-Oxley, XBRL?**

**BusinessWeek, February 8, 2005--** On Feb. 3, financial reporting took a giant step into the future with the Securities & Exchange Commission's announcement that it's ready to start accepting corporate financial reports that have been tagged with newly developed software code known as XBRL. That jumble of letters stands for Extensible Business Reporting Language. Software developers will easily grasp that it's a kind of XML (Extensible Markup Language), in this case tailored for business reporting. But to most financial professionals, XBRL represents a confusing new intersection of high tech and finance that they aren't quite ready to embrace. ...[Full Story](#)



### **Lifting the lid: XBRL seen easing financial analysis**

**By: Daniel Sorid and Joel Rothstein**

**BusinessWorld, January 24, 2005--** The day when stock investors scan corporate results with computer software to make immediate buy-and-sell decisions may be close at hand. After agonizingly slow progress, a computer language of business reporting called XBRL appears to be on the verge of



wider adoption, its backers say. XBRL could have major implications on the speed at which hedge fund managers and other investors make trading decisions, making accounting shenanigans more readily apparent and potentially increasing stock price volatility. XBRL, which stands for Extensible Business Reporting Language, consists of thousands of "tags" that correspond to items on financial reports, including balance sheets and income statements, making corporate filings understandable by a computer. ...[Full Story](#)



## Standards and the Home

**Your digital home and you:** One of the trends we will be reporting on in detail this year is the increasing digitization of the home, based upon an extensive skein of standards. In the following press release, CableLabs® reports on the roll out of one such standard that will be certain to see heavy use: it will help enable next-generation video on demand services into the home.

### CableLabs® Issues Headend VoD Metadata ADI 2.0 Specifications

**CableLabs Press Release, Louisville, CO, January 27, 2005--** Cable Television Laboratories, Inc. (Cablelabs) announced today that it has issued the first set of specifications to aid in the creation of next-generation Video-on-Demand (VoD) cable services through the development of headend metadata and content distribution documents. The two specifications are the products of a collaborative group comprised of cable operators, hardware vendors, and content providers. These newly released specifications build upon a family of specifications that currently are in use and have been adopted to address the needs of VoD services in the cable industry. The specifications address some of the needs anticipated for next-generation cable services, such as enhanced VoD, subscription VoD, advertising, and audio services in the cable headend. The specifications provide guidance to content providers for the distribution of content assets to cable operators. ...[Full Story](#)



## Web Services Update

**Would you like service oriented architecture with your web services?** The web services news continues to emanate from the major standards organizations active in that area, as the infrastructure becomes increasingly built out. The following selection of articles shows that activity continues at all levels, from updating of early standards in the Web services road map, to new elements, such as service oriented architecture, upon which major industry players are placing heavy strategic bets.

### UDDI v3.0 Ratified as OASIS Standard

**Oasis, Boston, MA, February 3, 2005--** The OASIS international standards consortium today announced that its members have approved the Universal Description, Discovery and Integration (UDDI) version 3.0.2 as an OASIS Standard, a status that signifies the highest level of ratification. Advanced through an open process, UDDI is commonly regarded as a cornerstone of Web services, defining a standard method for publishing and discovering network-based software components in a service-oriented architecture (SOA). "The UDDI registry model is one of the central elements of an interoperable framework that ensures the effective interaction of services in a service oriented architecture." said Frank Kenney, analyst at Gartner. "By enabling policy-based distribution and management of enterprise Web services, a UDDI registry can deliver significant business value. ...[Full Story](#)



## OASIS Creates TC to Define Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) Reference Model

**The Cover Pages, February 8, 2005--** New SOA-RM TC (Service Oriented Architecture Reference Model Technical Committee) has been created by OASIS members. The goal of the TC is to "establish a Reference Model to encourage the continued growth of specific and different SOA implementations whilst preserving a common layer that can be shared and understood between those or future implementations." The new TC is a spin-off and partial successor to the Electronic Business Service Oriented Architecture (ebSOA) TC, chartered in February 2004. Proposers of the new TC include representatives from Adobe Systems, BAE Systems, Boeing, Booz Allen Hamilton, Cisco Systems, ECOM, Fujitsu, and Lockheed Martin. ...[Full Story](#)



## Sun, Microsoft Breaking SOA Barriers By: Clint Boulton

**InternetNews.com, New York, February 2, 2005--** Microsoft (Quote, Chart) and Sun Microsystems (Quote, Chart) are closing the gap between them in an effort to speed the adoption of service-oriented architectures (SOA), a Sun official said at the Web Services on Wall Street 2005 conference here. Sun Distinguished Engineer Hal Jespersen said the long-time rivals have been steadily working on setting up federated identity management to increase interoperability, a large barrier to wide-scale adoption of Web services (define) and SOAs (define). ...[Full Story](#)



## World Wide Web Consortium Issues Three Web Services Recommendations; Three-Part Solution Leads to Better Web Services Performance

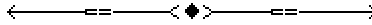
**TMCnet.com, January 25, 2005 --** The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) has published three new Web Services Recommendations: XML-binary Optimized Packaging (XOP), SOAP Message Transmission Optimization Mechanism (MTOM), and Resource Representation SOAP Header Block (RRSHB). These recommendations provides ways to efficiently package and transmit binary data included or referenced in a SOAP 1.2 message. Web Services applications have the primary goal of sharing and using data between applications. This includes an increasingly diverse set of media formats and devices, including large schematics and other graphical files. Examples are as intricate as sharing architectural blueprints between multiple parties, or as simple as sending a photo from a digital camera directly to a printer. ...[Full Story](#)



**Meanwhile, back at the Web:** Of course, without a Web, there would be no Web services. As shown in the following press release, the W3C and the IETF are still minding their knitting even while they serve the demands for web services standards as well.

## World Wide Web Consortium Supports the IETF URI Standard and IRI Proposed Standard

**W3C Press Release, January 26, 2005--** The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) announces its support for two newly issued publications that are critical to increasing the international reach of the World Wide Web. These publications, coordinated through both the IETF and W3C, are RFC 3986, STD 66 Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax and RFC 3987 Internationalized Resource Identifiers (IRIs), respectively an Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Internet Standard and Proposed Standard. URIs and IRIs Are the Glue That Holds the Web Together The World Wide Web is defined as the universal, all-encompassing space containing all Internet - and other - resources referenced by Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs, sometimes commonly called "URLs"). In Tim Berners Lee's original proposal, and in the initial Web implementation, the Web consisted of relatively few technologies, including the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and the HyperText Markup Language (HTML). ...[Full Story](#)



## XML Update

**W3C recommends jolt for XML:** *For the past several issues, we have been juxtaposing articles about XML successes with concerns over XML performance. This month, there was good news on the performance front, as the W3C issued three new Recommendations (signifying final approval) intended to help make XML data handling more efficient. The second story, from early eGovernment adopter Australia, shows that even after the technical issues are solved, the people issues can still present challenges.*

### W3C Recommends Quicker XML Transmission

By: Martin LaMonica

**W3C Press Release, January 26, 2005--** The World Wide Web consortium, the standards body in charge of developing XML, said Tuesday that it has issued three recommendations designed to make handling XML-formatted data more efficient. The specifications have the backing of large industry software providers, including IBM, Microsoft and BEA Systems, which provide the software infrastructure to build and run XML data and Web services applications. The W3C and vendors are looking at a variety of methods of speeding up the performance of XML, which can be slow for certain applications. The XML-binary Optimized Packaging, or XOP, specification provides an agreed-on way of sending binary information not typically represented as text, such as a photo, along with an XML document. ...[Full Story](#)



### You Can Lead a Government to XML

By: David Braue

**CIO.com, January 17, 2005--** Extensible Markup Language was once heralded as the lingua franca of e-government. More than six years down the road, however, it is still more of a regional dialect. It was with some pride that in 2002 the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) announced that it would be among the first such bodies in the world to support eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL). As the government body responsible for supervision of Australia's financial services and insurance industries, APRA believed the standard's enablement of consistent financial reporting structures would make it extremely popular among the 10,000 institutions required to report regularly to APRA. ...[Full Story](#)



## Who's Doing What to Whom

**Consensus, ladies and gentlemen!** *The "consensus" process may be all about agreeing, but agreeing doesn't always come easy. Usually, things get resolved in the standard setting milieu, but sometimes, as in all other areas of life, they just fall apart.*

### Catfight in the spyware corral

By: Stefanie Olsen

**ZDNET, February 8, 2005--** A group devoted to setting anti-spyware standards and helping consumers distinguish between safe and harmful software is on the rocks, with three founding members resigning in protest over policies they say are too lax. It's a "catfight in the spyware corral," as one security expert called it. Webroot Software, Aluria Software and Computer Associates International's PestPatrol successively announced their departures in recent days from the Consortium of Anti-Spyware Technology vendors (Coast). ...[Full Story](#)