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HERE WE GO AGAIN

They say you want a revolution
Well, you know, we all want to change the world.
John Lennon/Paul McCartney, "Revolution"

Systems exist in two states: stasis and change. In the technology area, one might argue that only the latter actually exists in nature, and that if two states exist, they are instead evolutionary change, and revolutionary change.

When technology is in the revolutionary stage, there is a need for standard setting to follow suit. Right now, we are in such a stage, and that is the topic of this issue.

In our Editorial, we examine how radical shifts to new types of systems can be compared to their precursors in order to create a synthesis that is a better platform than either.

In our Feature Article, we look at how the last major shift in standard setting occurred in the late 1980s as a reference point for what is to come.

Our Trends piece, in turn, examines a new type of organization – the MetaStandard Consortium – that has recently evolved to meet the new demands of a modern, networked world.

And finally, in the month's Blog entry, we examine how social standards of business behavior are being replaced, in a similarly radical change, with formal, modern corporate responsibility standards.

As always, we hope you enjoy this issue.

Best regards,

Andrew Updegrove
Editor and Publisher