



CEN/iSSS Workshop eCAT
Multilingual eCataloguing and eClassification in eBusiness

Revised
Workshop eCAT Business Plan

(version 12)

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Source:

CEN/iSSS

WS/eCAT Secretariat (TermNet)

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at Plenary 2005-03-16

1. Title of the Workshop

Multilingual eCataloguing and eClassification in eBusiness (CEN/ISSS WS/eCAT)

This title replaced the original title: Multilingual Catalogue strategies for eCommerce and eBusiness. It has been adopted since 10 October 2003, following the inclusion of a second project (ePDC project) dealing with product classification systems in the CEN/ISSS WS/eCAT work program.

The Workshop title remains unchanged.

2. Proposers

- CEDI – Chemical EDI Initiative (Tokyo, Japan)
- CIDX (Chemical Industry Data eXchange (European contact: Ludwigshafen, Germany).
- eCI@ss e.V. (Cologne, Germany)
- EMF – European Multimedia Forum (Brussels, Belgium)
- ENSMA/pLIB (Poitiers, France)
- GS1 (Brussels, Belgium) – former EAN International
- IIM - Fachhochschule Köln, Institut für Informationsmanagement (Cologne, Germany)
- Infoterm – International Information Centre for Terminology (Vienna, Austria)
- OILCATS (Houston, USA)
- Phoenix EDH (Houston, USA)
- PIDX - Petroleum Industry Data eXchange (Houston, USA)
- TermNet (Vienna, Austria)
- University of Hagen (Hagen, Germany)

Joined by:

- UNSPSC (Lawrenceville, USA)
- ROSETTANET (Santa Ana, USA)
- SEMI (San Jose, USA - European contact: Brussels, Belgium)
- IAO – Fraunhofer Institute (Stuttgart, Germany)
- ECC – European Content Club (Frankfurt, Germany)
- KIS – Korea Information Service (Seoul, Korea)
- Paradine (Vienna, Austria)
- Requisite (Westminster, USA)
- Menza (Lealholm, UK)
- CEDI – Chemical EDI Initiative (Tokyo, Japan)
- EA-ECA – East Asian Electronic Commerce Association (Tokyo, Japan)
- CNIS – China National Institute for Standards (Beijing, China)
- UDEX (Newport, UK)
- Semantic Sciences Corp (LoS AltoS, USA)

3. Background

Multilingualism in the European Union is often seen as an obstacle for the European economy in terms of competition and the opening up of new markets, but it also has political dimensions relating to consumer protection, freedom to move, etc. However, new economies have emerged in the wake of trying to overcome the language barriers,

such as the language industries, including activities and the language technologies for making language resources and terminologies available at a large scale. Support of European research activities, through EU funding schemes, has been and still is a key factor for enabling Europe to be a leader in these domain.

It has been recognized that products and services must be sold in the language of the target market. There are strong indications that eCommerce and eBusiness can only function well, if the virtual marketplaces and all their major elements (such as product classification schemes, user interfaces, product catalogues etc.) are multilingual from the outset. This, however, would create insurmountable financial barriers for SMEs, if they cannot benefit from synergies through a systematic approach to multilingual data, the methods for their management and the respective tools, as well as the integration of these data, methods and tools into the company's whole ICT environment.

The importance of multilinguism is felt not only in Europe, but also at international level. In ISO, Technical Committee 37 has been dealing since a few years with "Terminology and other language resources". A New Working Item has been recently added to its work-programme: "Basic principles for multilingual product classification schemes for electronic commerce".

The importance of multilinguism has also been recognised by the main international organization working on eCommerce and eBusiness related issues¹.

4. Workshop objectives

The Workshop aims at formulating a strategy for

- a) establishing a harmonized methodology for multilingual eCatalogues, and for implementing this methodology in a future full scale project on eCatalogues;
- b) harmonizing existing standards for product description and classification into a common, horizontal (cross industry) system;
- c) raising awareness and training on standards in the above mentioned domains.

The Workshop is focussed on EU SMEs needs; it will also pay special attention to Central and Eastern European Countries and EFTA countries.

The Workshop will closely cooperate with other initiatives in the field, including EU-funded RTD projects, thus bundling experiences and competence from the private and public sectors.

5. Workshop work programme

The Workshop eCAT combines two separate projects, one dealing with eCataloguing, the second dealing with harmonization of product classification (ePDC) – in the area of eCommerce and eBusiness.

¹ Reference: Memorandum of Understanding of the ITU, UN/ECE, ISO and IEC. CEN/ISSS and ISO/TC 37 are participating to the group meetings, which are held twice a year. The Secretariat of ISO/TC37 is held by Infoterm, which is closely collaborating with TermNet.

The project on classification is divided into two parts, ePDC 1 and ePDC 2 (Gen-ePDC). The detailed work programme for each project is contained in separate documents:

- Cataloguing: it is contained in the Terms of Reference for the WS/eCAT Project Team (document eCAT 02/003)
- Classification: it is contained in the ePDC draft Project Plan (document eCAT 03/006). The project on classification is further divided into two parts: ePDC1 and Gen-ePDC. The detailed work programme for Gen-ePDC is contained in document eCAT 05/002.

6. Workshop deliverables

No.	Name	Date	Status
1	CWA: "Multilingual catalogue strategies for eCommerce and eBusiness"	Dec 2003	Published June 2004 CWA 15045:2004
2	ePDC Draft CWA1 "Dictionary of Terminology for Product Classification and Description"	Dec 2004	for approval 16 March 2005
3	ePDC Draft CWA2 "Description of References and Data Models for Classification"	Dec 2004	for approval 16 March 2005
4	Interim Report (D1)	July 2005	
5	Gen-ePDC CWA1 (D2) "The New Properties Library"	February 2006	
6	Gen-ePDC CWA2 (D3) "Product Classes with sets of Properties" (and hierarchies if standardization required)	February 2006	
7	Gen-ePDC CWA3 (D4) "Results of development of multilingual catalogues and their respective data modeling methodology"	February 2006	

7. Workshop timetable

The Workshop eCAT started at the end of 2002 and it is planned to end in February 2006.

Meeting	Location	Date
Kick-off meeting	Brussels	2002-11-29
1 st plenary	Cologne	2003-03-28
2 nd plenary	Cologne	2003-10-10
3 rd plenary	Cologne	2004-02-27
4 th plenary	Cologne	2004-09-14
5 th plenary (Gen-ePDC)	Cologne	2005-03-16
6 th plenary (Gen-ePDC)	?	2005-09/2005-10?
7 th plenary (Gen-ePDC)	?	2006-01/2006-02?

The first project, on eCatalogues, ended in December 2003.

The second project, on classification, was included in the Workshop eCAT work programme at the second plenary meeting in October 2003. The project on classification is scheduled to end in February 2006².

8. Workshop organization and resources

The Workshop works mainly electronically. Full electronic facilities in terms of an e-mail exploder and document web repository are provided. The Workshop meets twice a year, as indicated above.

A Chair and a Vice-Chair were appointed at the kick-off meeting and at the second plenary meeting.

The Workshop works on voluntary basis. It is supported by three project teams.

Two project teams (for the eCatalogue project and ePDC 1 project) have already been selected. The third project team will be selected in March 2005 and approved at the plenary 2005-03-16, following an open call for experts.

Funding is available from EU/EFTA under the eEurope activity to support the third project team, provided that the Workshop achieve a sufficient level of participation.

The Workshop Chair and vice-Chair will closely monitor progress made by the Project Teams and provide guidance if needed.

The Workshop Secretariat is provided by TermNet on behalf of ON.

²The first part of classification project ePDC 1 ends in March 2005. The second part – Gen ePDC – runs from December 2004 to February 2006.

9. Liaisons

- CEN/ISSS/eBIF, WS/eBES and other relevant CEN/ISSS Workshops
- ISO/TC 37
- eCI@ss e.V.
- ISO TC 184 SC4 WG2
- IEC SC3D
- OASIS
- EDIFICE
- Standards South Africa

Other appropriate liaisons will be identified among industry eCommerce focused associations in Europe and globally.

10. Contact points

<p><u>Workshop Chair</u> Dr. Klaus-Dirk Schmitz Fachhochschule Köln – Institut für Informationsmanagement Mainzer Straße 5, D-50678 Köln Tel. +49-221-8275-3303 Fax +49-221-8275-3991 E-mail: Klaus.Schmitz@fh-koeln.de</p>	<p><u>Vice-Chair</u> Mr. Raymond Betz Chemin du Moulin 38 1380 Lasne – Belgium Tel./Fax: +32-2-6520128 Mobile: +32-475-431450 E-mail: raymond.betz@tvcablenet.be</p>
<p><u>Workshop Secretariat</u> Ms. Eva Lindquist, Mr. Christian Galinski TermNet® – International Network for Terminology Aichholzgasse 6/12, A-1120 Vienna, Austria Tel.: +43-1-817 4499 Fax: +43-1-817 4499-44 E-mail: elindquist@termnet.org</p>	<p><u>CEN/ISSS Workshop Manager</u> Ms. Barbara Gatti Rue de Stassart 36, B-1050 Brussels Tel.: +32-2-550 0834 Fax: +32-2-550 0966 E-mail: Barbara.Gatti@cenorm.be</p>

ANNEX : ePDC YEAR 1 to 3 (2003-10 / 2006-02)

