



European Committee for Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation
Europäisches Komitee für Normung

Workshop on Multilingual eCataloguing and eClassification in eBusiness (CEN/ISSS WS/eCAT)	eCAT 05-006 Version 3
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(approved by participants)

1 Welcome and administration

Mr. Galinski sends apologies from Mr. Klaus-Dirk Schmitz, Chair, and welcomes the participants. Mr. Betz, Vice-Chair, will chair the meeting. Following participants - Mr. Frans van Basten, Mr. Pim van der Eijk and Mr. Helmut Beckmann - send their apologies.

Mr. Betz suggests discussing the possible merge of tasks A and B of ePDC-2 right after the finalization of ePDC-1, as some participants need to leave earlier.

2 Project ePDC-1 - Finalization

2.1 Comments received on ePDC CWA1 and CWA2 (doc 05/005)

Mr. Betz gives a short presentation on ePDC-1, which is a project within the Workshop eCAT and started October 2003. CWA1 and CWA2 were published in December instead of September 2004, which consequently extended the initial timescale resulting in that the end of ePDC-2 will be March 2006.

Comments on the CWAs were received from Mr. John Ketchell, Ms. Barbara Gatti, Mr. Guy Pierra, Mr. Maarten Koens and Ms. Bodil Nistrup Madsen, many being editorial. The comments have been summarized in document 05-005 and can be downloaded from <http://linux.termnet.org/index.py?level=level3&id=2&lang=en>

Mr. Christian Galinski thanks the experts for the good work which has already caused great impact. He reports that the activities and results of the workshop have become a topic of the MoU/MG – “Memorandum of Understanding/Management Group, which is a global coordination of eBusiness activities (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/e-business/mou/index.html>). It has been recognized that there is a general problem with catalogues; also semantic interoperability is dealt with in catalogues. A goal should be only one mix of methodologies to treat all types of content items. In this workshop not only awareness has been created but also semantic processing is now being dealt with.

Mr. Betz congratulates Mr. van Basten, Mr. Leukel and Mr. Ondracek for the good work on the CWAs and for the excellent collaboration.

Mr. Maarten Koens: We seem to invest much time in asking manufacturers to define properties on the commodity level for each of their products. Today there are very many smart keyword search methods. Is it worth the investment in doing all the property work rather than having simply very good free text item descriptions (meeting a certain standard)?

Mr. Galinski: There are programmes for keyword search, working well with a large amount of running text. This search method is good when for instance 1 million articles in newspapers are searched. But, when it comes to reduced product descriptions, the efficiency is very low. There is a huge lack of harmonization of properties between industries. This type of data base content makes it difficult to search.

Mr. Wilkes: when you start exchanging information between different tools and systems, you need to have a clear and unambiguous description of the data.

Machines cannot deal with the inaccuracy which is part of the text search mechanisms and which are absolutely acceptable for human users.

Mr. Betz asks Mr. Zoltan Patkai to inform how item description is treated in the retail industry.

Mr. Patkai: Examples come from the FMCG industry, where there are two different sets of information being handled in two different databases: Global Product Classification (GPC) and Global Data Dictionary (GDD). Presently, there are discussions on how the two databases could be aligned. In GPC, there are 30 industry segments to be completed by end of this year. The primary goal is to provide a global classification standard for the Global Data Synchronization Network. Over 200.000 articles are registered in the global registry. There are also discussions with regards to GPC's alignment with UNSPSC (it is maintained by the GS1 subsidiary UCC in the US.)

Mr. Guy Pierra: In the CWA, there was too much precision on the toolkit and on the system, and recommends to rather investigate further proposed in Work Items 8 and 9. He suggests to add in section 8: "This requirement will be further investigated in ePDC-2".

Mr. Leukel: If so, the user could assume that these are all the requirements which could be misleading, and agrees with Mr. Pierra.
→ *Mr. Leukel will make the correction in the CWA.*

Mr. Pierra comments on Section 9: "Support access policy" Mr. Pierra strongly suggests to remove the whole chapter. It mentions a requirement which was agreed upon on beforehand: ["that a system should support..."]. Mr. Pierra disagrees with the fact that "it should" and suggests instead "it could" and "it will be dealt with in ePDC-2".

Mr. Ondracek: If we don't suggest this requirement, we will not be able to create a business model.

Mr. Wallis: recommends the broadest possible consideration, the tool can have a mechanism which can be applied.

Mr. Betz: Suggests a compromise and to insert in the beginning right after the 1st paragraph: "The question of access policy will be discussed in ePDC-2. We observe that.... and will deal with in ePDC-2".

Mr. Pierra: ... and replace "should" with "could"! – and agrees.

→ ***The participants voted: 100% agree***

Ms. Gatti and Mr. Ketchell made some editorial comments which were taken into account by Jörg Leukel. Ms. Gatti informs about a small additional correction of the reference in chapter 14.

→ *Mr. Leukel will make the correction in the CWA.*

No other comments were received; none of the participants have further comments.

2.2 Approval of CWA1 and CWA2

→ ***The participants voted: CWA-1 and CWA-2 are endorsed.***

Mr. Leukel will make the corrections and send the final versions to the Secretariat for further distribution.

2.3 Survey on your satisfaction with the ePDC-1 project

Mr. Betz asks all participants to return the completed Survey to the Secretariat.

3 Project ePDC-2 - Introduction and kick-off

When Mr. Betz wrote the Terms of Reference, it was noticed that the planned project became too large for just one project and recognized the necessity to split it into two parts. The drafting of the project ePDC-2 started already two years ago, in the meantime things have changed. We need to incorporate the presently most known changes, liaisons need to be established. Before starting the discussion, Mr Betz presents the status. The initial project draft was designed for one single expert. Then, after very fruitful discussions with ISO/TC 184 (responsible for ISO 13584) commenced, TC 184 was very happy to cooperate. Domain dictionaries are strongly linked with ISO/TC 37 as well. At the end of the project ePDC-1, it was recognized that the work in ePDC-2 should be closely linked with the ISO/TCs; the need arose to consider XML.

Now, finally, ePDC-2 is divided into four parts requiring more than one expert. The criteria are very narrow and specific, the number of suitable candidates very limited.

1. Classification
2. Catalogue
3. XML schemas
4. ISO

Mr. Betz informs about a new project in the CEN/WS eBES - called cCatalogue (cCAT), dealing with finding the basic blocks/core components of a catalogue. A full list of core components should be available, including business processes needed, representing the basic way how to build up messages for catalogue treatment (sending information to catalogues, upgrading catalogues, information flow between people handling the catalogues, etc). Mr. Betz invites the participants to register as members of this project of Workshop eBES.

Ms. Gatti points out that registration is not for free, the Workshop Manager Mr. Alain Dechamps of CEN/ISSS can give further information (alain.dechamps@cenorm.be)

Mr. Pierra wonders what are the rules for becoming a liaison? Ms. Gatti informs that a liaison request needs to be formally approved by the workshop and that usually one person of the liaison is appointed to follow the activities respectively.

Mr. Betz: There is interest to liaise with ISO/TC 184.

3.1 Discussion of merging tasks A and B:

Initially, 4 experts seemed to be required for ePDC-2 and were described in the Terms of Reference. During the Selection Panel's discussions about the expert applications, the idea arose to merge the tasks A and B. Mr. Betz reads out 5 pros and 1 con for merging the tasks A and B. One **advantage** of having one expert for both tasks is, that when analyzing the catalogues there are big similarities with different objects - basic, restricted, design properties, physical, technical properties, etc. - which need to be linked. Basic elements of the dictionary part are often near to

what you find in catalogues. One **drawback** for merging the tasks is that there are not only similar topics, but also substantial differences between A and B.

Mr. Volker Schmitz is against merging A + B. Working on ePDC-1 has clearly shown that there are two different communities for “catalogues” and “classification”. The different experts represent different aspects, which highly contributed to the success. There are of course similarities, but also big differences in the two different tasks: distributing the data and how to use classification systems and catalogues (eProcurement). If only one expert takes over, relevant information may get lost. The success of ePDC-1 was based on the close and fruitful cooperation of all three experts. Mr. Schmitz recommends to stick to two experts for A and B.

Having listened to Mr. Schmitz, **Mr. Wallis**’ opinion has now changed and agrees with Mr. Schmitz, although he had previously agreed to merge the tasks.

Mr. Betz generally agrees, but remarks that it imposes more constraints to the experts and to the coordination of four instead of three experts. Costs could be higher when two experts need to liaise instead of one -> the requirement “to formulate basic principles and requirements” includes the consideration of existing catalogue models. There are 400 different models and more than 128 companies proposing catalogues. We should liaise with the three or four main ones. Double effort to liaise costs double.

Mr. Schmitz: Due to the amount of man/days (90) of expert A, expert B with 25 man/days is only supporting expert A. All experts do not need to travel to each meeting and each liaison, one can divide up these activities between experts A and B. More importantly, the cCAT project is not funded and cannot be as high as in a funded project (25 m/d) which seems much too high. Ideas and basic work can be brought in, but cCAT is not detailed enough, the results cannot be really used in ePDC-2. It is a good idea to have a catalogue expert supporting the main expert.

Mr. Betz: cCAT meets once every month = one full day for the expert per month = one man/day.

Mr. Pierra: It is rather difficult for me to have an opinion. We have defined a piece of work, applications were received. The discussion is too abstract.

Mr. Betz: Those who have applied for A and B are the best in Europe.

Mr. Galinski: there are pros and cons for both solutions. The candidates who have applied can do either tasks or just one of them. The workshop needs to vote on the suggested merge. If you vote against, there will be two candidates. The amount of mandays (90 + 25) stays the same and is combined with voluntary work contributed by others.

Mr. Patkai: What is affordable for the project? Why not have two permanent experts and 1 or 2 experts flexible?

Mr. Koens: Sees advantages in both arguments. The selection commission has seen advantages to merge. Since we have not seen the CVs, we ought to rather follow the recommendations of the Selection Commission.

→ Vote: Do you agree to follow the Selection Committee’s recommendation to merge tasks A and B?

It was voted to follow the Selection Committee's recommendation: Yes: 5; No: 3; Rest: 4

3.2 Selection of experts

Mr. Betz announces the selection of experts for ePDC-2:

A+B: Mr. Helmut Beckmann, GfIM, Germany
C: Mr. Eric Sardet, CRCFAO LISI/ENSMA, France
D: Mr. Wolfgang Wilkes, University of Hagen, Germany

The experts will be asked to make specific contacts with great supporters and of value for the work. Regarding expert A+B: Ms Madsen is a real expert in terminology, expert A will be asked to liaise with Ms Madsen.

The formal approval by the workshop members to the project team is needed; the Secretariat will distribute the CVs.

Mr. Galinski suggests to appointing Mr. Betz as Team Convenor, which was approved.

Mr. Betz introduces the single work items of ePDC-2.

Mr Wallis: The planned timetable seems almost impossible.

Mr. Patkai: Why not postpone the date of the Interims Report from July to September?

Mr. Betz: Informally, work has already started, so the deadlines are not that tough.

Ms. Gatti: If you want to postpone the date for the report, an amendment in the official contract with the EC is needed; it will take time to get an answer, probably until May or June. The Interim Report is for the Commission as a proof on process about the work.

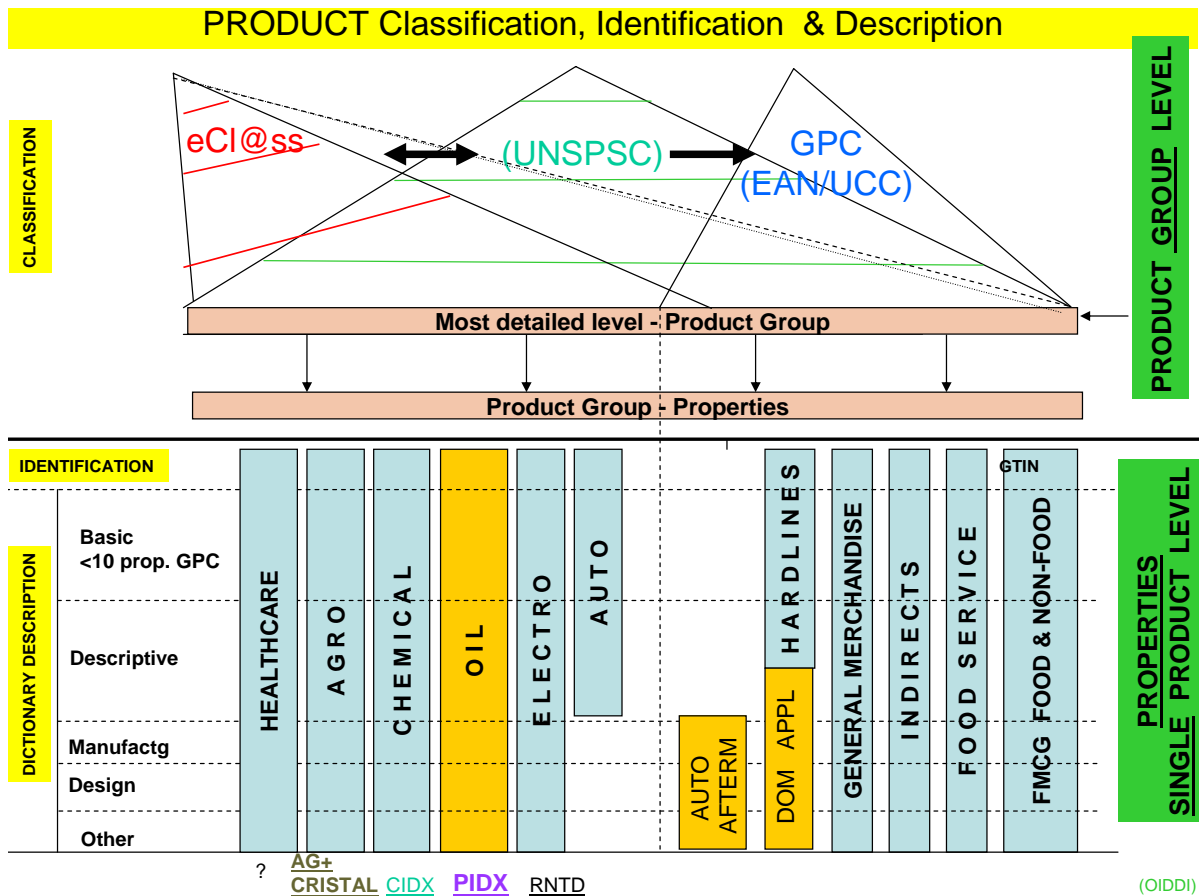
3.3 Formal approval of documents by the majority of participants

The documents

- Revised WS/eCAT Business Plan (doc 05/001)
- Project Plan (doc 05/002)
- Terms of Reference (doc 05/003)

were formally approved.

Mr. Betz presents a table: PRODUCT Classification, Identification & Description.



Mr. Wallis: UNSPSC has outsourced one review to PDIX (section 71 – Mining and Oil and Gas Services). Agrochemical (RAPID), chemical (CIDX) and oil (PIDX) have agreed to a long-term cooperation, starting a long-term roadmap to complete merging of messages.

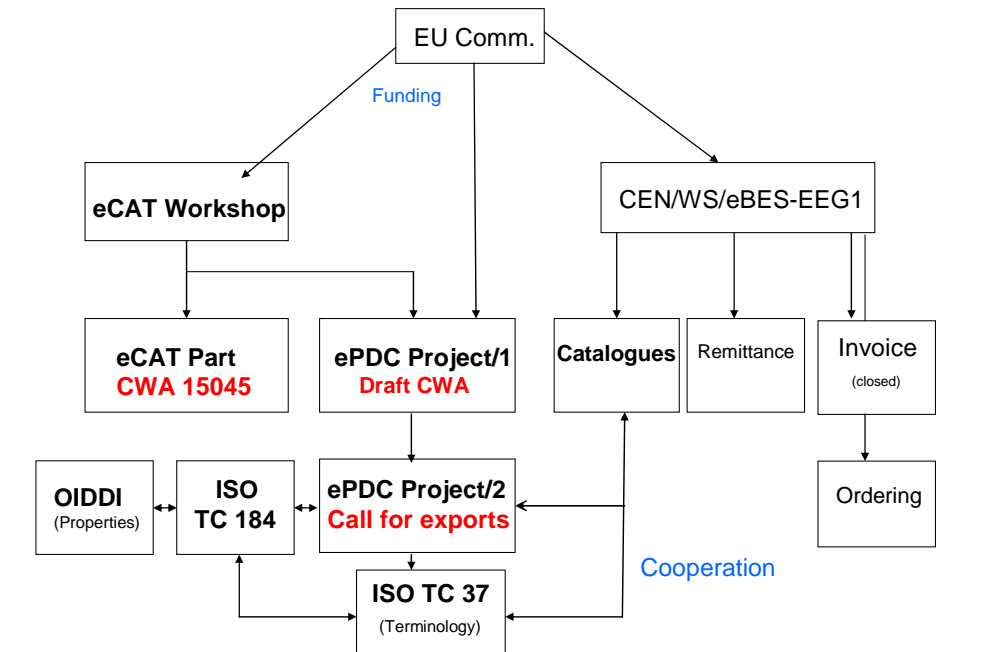
Mr. Koens: if you are already doing work on the 3 classification systems... do you have an agreement with those owning the systems that they will follow the route of alignments and accept change requests to change their systems, as a natural procedure?

Mr. Betz: Partly true. No formalism is being introduced, no formal paper is being written today, but factually it happens. UNSPSC is no official exchange partner for the time being.

Mr. Patkai: Unofficially yes. We have demolished the last barrier so that GPC became free of charge. The user community is the owner of the standard, i.e. encouraging participation of these standards. Anybody who is willing to share experiences is welcome to join discussions – like any other organization in the world. In a quarterly basis we are providing a snapshot for the Global Data Synchronisation users.

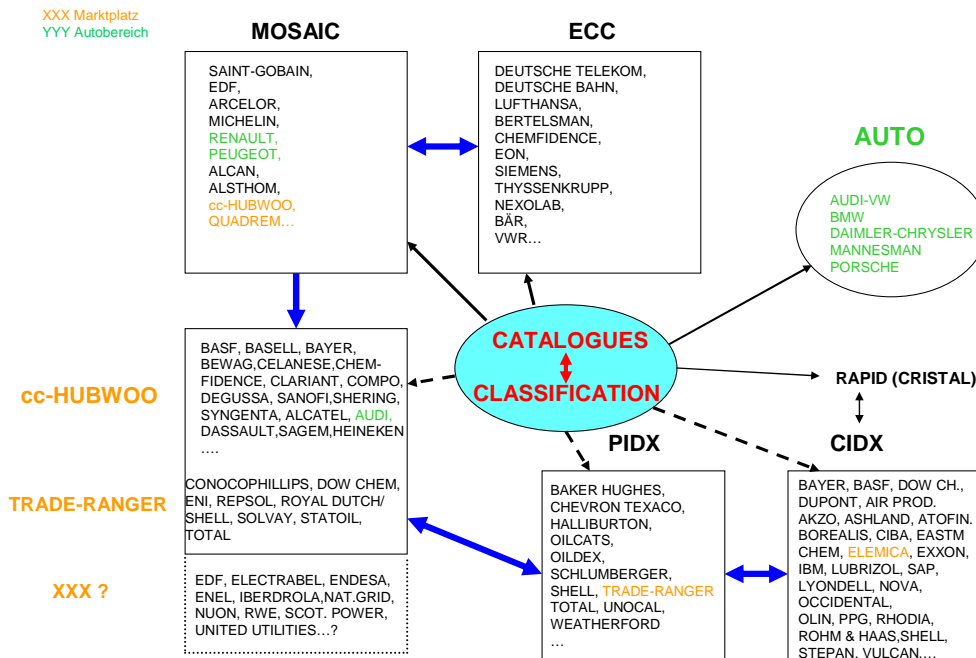
Mr Betz presents a diagram, showing what is happening today in the world of catalogues and classification. For larger view: It will be uploaded on the eCAT Website.

eCAT/ePDC/EEG1 relations



Mr. Betz shows a slide of European Content Club, MOSAIC, cc-HUBWOO, TRADE-RANGER, PIDX, and CIDX etc. For larger view, it will be uploaded on the eCAT Website.

HUGE CONSORTIUM ?



4 Action Plan on public eProcurement

Mr. Olivier Coppens, European Commission

Mr. Coppens gives an overview of Public Procurement. Objectives are notably to spread IT through electronic public procurement. Public Procurement (PP) rules ensure a maximum number of companies can tender in other EU Member States. PP directives open PP above specific value thresholds. The legislation was recently reviewed and public authorities can now take advantage of the possibilities offered by electronic public procurement. The Commission has launched an action plan for electronic public procurement. Effective e-procurement includes political, technical, economic, legal and organizational aspects. Mr. Coppens outlines the basics of “well functioning internal market”: avoid technical barriers that would prevent firms from one EU Member State to participate to an electronic public procurement procedure in another Member State. Mr. Coppens also outlines “aspects of better governance and efficiency” with the goal to improve business circumstances. Mr. Coppens also focuses his presentation on the CPV (Common Procurement Vocabulary) - the procurement classification with specific features, adapted for the requirements of PP.

For further information, please refer to the Action Plan of eProcurement:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/publicprocurement/e-procurement_en.htm#actionplan

Mr. Leukel: Wonders where actually the connection is to ePDC?

Mr. Coppens: CPV is a nomenclature. We are therefore listening to the work done here in this Workshop.

Mr. Betz: DG Internal Market subcontracts part of the management of CPV.

Mr. Coppens: We cannot adapt the CPV every two months as other market-based classifications because the CPV has to undergo a legislative process. We have updated the CPV 3 or 4 times. We have asked a consultant to improve the CPV, given the fact that critics were heard about CPV. External analyzing and the review of basic structure were done.

Mr. Pierra: Only classification, but do you also have property?

Mr. Coppens: It is divided into Products, Services and Works, and Supplementary Vocabulary – some properties, which still is very poor.

Mr. Koens: What to do with the survey we received?

Mr. Coppens: Feedback received was mainly received by public purchasers (“contracting authorities”) in Europe. Up to now, the scope of comments is too narrow. If eCAT has comments, please do so.

Mr. Koens: Will send out the survey to his contacts.

Mr. Coppens: The consultation runs till end of March.

Mr. Leukel: In the survey it says: “Do you use CPV for your product classification?” CPV is not for products but only for tenders?

Mr. Coppens: The legislation of PP imposes the use of CPV to public purchasers. These public purchasers can include companies that could appear as private (e.g. post companies, like Deutsche Post for instance, or railway companies like for instance Deutsche Bahn, electricity companies...).

A lively discussion follows.

5 Reports from liaising organizations

5.1 CEN/ISSS related activities (eBIF ...)

Ms Gatti gives an overview on the latest activities at CEN/ISSS. For further information, please refer to the presentation.

5.2 Liaison report from ISO/TC 37

Ms. Anja Drame, on behalf of Mr. Galinski in his function as secretary of ISO/TC 37, reported that as a result of discussions launched during the ISO/TC 37 meetings in Paris in August 2004, a committee-internal ballot on the extension of title and scope of ISO/TC 37 towards "content" was held.

The proposal of the title from "Terminology and other language resources" into "Terminology and language and content resources" received clear majority of positive votes (92%, 100% participation). After some amendments, based on suggestions by members, the new title and scope are now to be accepted by the Technical Management Board (most likely at next TMB meeting in Geneva in April).

Next TC 37 meetings and plenary are planned to take place in Warsaw, Poland, from 21 to 26 August 2005. Further information can be retrieved from www.iso.org/tc37. The distributed ISO/TC 37 flyer will be available on the presentations section of the eCAT Website.

6 Any other business

In June a suggestion of date of next meeting (planned for October) will be distributed to the eCAT members.

7 Participants

BETZ	Raymond	ePDC Convenor
COPPENS	Olivier	EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DORLOFF	Frank-Dieter	University of Duisburg-Essen
DRAME	Anja	TermNet Cologne
GALINSKI	Christian	TermNet
GATTI	Barbara	CEN/ISSS
JURKOWSKI	Sven	Requisite Technology GmbH
KOENS	Maarten	SupplyChange bvba
LEUKEL	Jörg	University of Duisburg-Essen
LINDQUIST	Eva	TermNet
ONDRACEK	Nikolaus	Paradine
PATKAI	Zoltan	GS1
PIERRA	Guy	ENSMA
PYKA	Uwe	SAP
SCHMITZ	Volker	University of Duisburg-Essen
SIMONSEN	Helge G.	Verdande
WALLIS	Dave	PDIX
WILKES	Wolfgang	FernuniHagen

Excused:

BASTEN, VAN	Frans	Digitect
BECKMANN	Helmut	GfIM

EIJK, VAN DER
ROSAN
SCHMITZ

Pim
Karlheinz
Klaus-Dirk

OASIS
Siemens Corporate Standardization & Regulation
Univ. of Applied Sciences, IIM