Object Management Group
Background

Organization:
Founded in April 1989 by eleven companies, the Object Management Group™ (OMG™) began independent operations as a not-for-profit corporation. Through the OMG's commitment to developing technically excellent, commercially viable and vendor independent specifications for the software industry, the consortium now includes approximately 800 members. The OMG is moving forward in establishing the Model Driven Architecture™ as the “Architecture of Choice for a Connected World”™ through its worldwide standard specifications including CORBA®, CORBA/IIOP™, the UML™, XMI™, MOF™, Object Services, Internet Facilities and Domain Interface specifications.

Location:
The OMG is headquartered in Needham, MA, USA with a subsidiary in Japan. The OMG has international marketing offices in Bahrain, Brazil, Germany, India and the UK, along with a government representative in Washington, D.C.

Mission:
The OMG was formed to create a component-based software marketplace by accelerating the introduction of standardized object software. The organization’s charter includes the establishment of industry guidelines and detailed object management specifications to provide a common framework for application development. Conformance to these specifications will make it possible to develop a heterogeneous computing environment across all major hardware platforms and operating systems. Implementations of OMG specifications can be found on many operating systems across the world today.

The OMG’s series of specifications detail the necessary standard interfaces for Distributed Object Computing. Its widely popular Internet protocol IIOP (Internet InterORB Protocol) is being used as the infrastructure for hundreds of technology companies. OMG specifications are used worldwide to develop and deploy distributed applications for vertical markets, including Manufacturing, Finance, Telecoms, Electronic Commerce, Real-time systems and Health Care.

The OMG defines object management as software development that models the real world through representation of "objects." These objects are the encapsulation of the attributes, relationships and methods of software identifiable program components. A key benefit of an object-oriented system is its ability to expand in functionality by extending existing components and adding new objects to the system. Object
management results in faster application development, easier maintenance, enormous scalability and reusable software.

**Structure:**
The OMG is structured into three major bodies, the Platform Technology Committee (PTC), the Domain Technology Committee (DTC) and the Architecture Board. The consistency and technical integrity of work produced in the PTC and DTC is managed by an overarching Architectural Board. Within the Technology Committees and Architectural Board rest all of the Task Forces, SIGs, and Working Groups that drive the technology adoption process of the OMG.

There are three major methods of influencing the OMG process, in addition to the impact of general review, commentary and open discussion. The first is the ability to vote on work items or adoptions in the Task Forces that are ultimately reviewed and voted on at the Technology Committee level. The second is the ability to vote on work items or adoptions at one or both of the Technology Committee levels. The third is the ability to actually submit technology for adoption at one or both of the Technology Committee levels. Membership fees are based on these levels of influence.

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