

OMG in Motion

July 2000

The OMG Organizational Structure

This issue of *OMG in Motion* features an Organizational Structure of the OMG's Technical Committees. (See pages 4-7.) The OMG is separated into the Platform Technical Committee (PTC), Domain Technical Committee (DTC) and the Architecture Board (AB). The Organizational Structure includes a few pieces of information we think you'll find useful. The chart separates the groups into Task Forces and SIGs. Under the Task Forces and Special Interest Groups (SIGs), we list the Working Groups, Revision Task Forces (RTFs) and Finalization Task Forces (FTFs) that report to that Task Force or SIG.

The mailing address listed next to each TF/SIG is the mailing list that group uses to communicate and discuss issues relevant to the group. If you are an OMG member and would like to subscribe to a group's mailing list to find out what is going on or to add your input, please send an email to request@omg.org with your name, email and the name of the list you want to join.

Most groups also list an individual's name and email address. This person is the Chair of the group. If you have questions about the group and its work, please feel free to mail that Chair. Remember that all of the Chairs are volunteers, so please have patience if they don't immediately respond. (Don't mail the chair with your request to join the mailing list.)

Please remember that the details of this list do change frequently, so please check the OMG's website or email the PTC/DTC chair, Fred Waskiewicz, wask@omg.org if you have any questions. *

Getting Specifications and Products

By Jon Siegel
Director, Technology Transfer
Object Management Group

The OMG's website is finally getting its own tutorial section. One page answers Frequently Asked Questions about specifications and products—what's the difference, what do you really need, and how do you get it? Here's a condensed version; for the whole thing (and clickable URLs), surf your browser to www.omg.org/technology/documents/recent

How do I get OMG specifications?

All of the OMG's specifications may be downloaded for free from the OMG's website. The best place to start is the page "Our Technology Links" at www.omg.org/techprocess/meetings/schedule/adopt.html.

There's a page of download instructions at www.omg.org/technology/download.htm and a brief set of instructions on finding the latest version at www.omg.org/gettingstarted/specsandprods.htm#HowToDecide.

In this article, we'll supplement those instructions with additional explanation of what's going on "behind the scenes," and why the specifications go through so many versions.

How do I decide which version of a spec to download?

If you're building a product based on an OMG specification, you need to download the latest version of the specification. For this, you'll need to check Work in Progress (<http://www.omg.org/techprocess/meetings/>)

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New Members Spotlight



We occasionally spotlight companies and organizations that are new to the OMG. Here are a few companies that have recently joined:

iWITNESS

Number of employees: 40

Location: Boulder, CO, USA

Products/Services offered: Electronic Records Management—e-mail management, records verification, archiving, storage, etc.

URL: www.iwitness.com

What factor made you decide to join the OMG? Interested in standards-setting bodies.

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Specifications and Products

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schedule/) as well as the Recently Adopted Specifications page. We're working on a tutorial page that will tell how to do this, in considerable detail.

If you have already bought or obtained an evaluation copy of a product or implementation that says that it conforms to a particular version of a specification, you might want to download its exact version of the spec so you can verify conformance. We're also working on a page describing this task.

But, if you're checking out CORBA or one of the other specs (CORBAservices, UML, the MOF, or any other), and you want the latest easily obtainable version of the specification, this is the article to read for instructions.

Step 1: Check the Recently Adopted Specifications page (www.omg.org/technology/documents/recent)

Every specification that appears on the Recently Adopted Specifications page is the latest adopted version. This is true regardless of the reason why the specification is listed on this page. Some specs here are totally new, the result of an adoption process that has just completed. Others are here because, after being adopted and used for a while, they have undergone routine maintenance and the new point release document (that is, 1.1 or 3.2 or whatever) is being edited. These revised specifications supersede the formal versions that you may find using the procedures in the next section.

If you find the specification you're looking for on the Recently Adopted Specifications page, download it and you're done. If you find an RTF (that is, Revision Task Force) report, download every part of it. Some part (or parts) may be the new release in specification format. But RTF reports for some specifications contain only a set of changes or edits that need to be applied to the previous formal version. If you find and download one of these, you will also need to download the base specification from the formal documentation as we describe next.

And, if you didn't find the specification you were looking for on the Recently Adopted Specifications page, continue to Step 2.

Step 2: Check the OMG Formal documentation Page (www.omg.org/technology/documents/formal)

If you didn't find the spec you were looking for in Step 1, you're in luck because your specification must be in the OMG's Formal Documentation.

As soon as a specification is adopted, it is placed on the queue of the OMG's cracker-jack editing staff. When its turn comes, it is edited into the OMG's formal document style and placed into one of our "Virtual" specification binders. Currently, there are four sets of binders: CORBA/IIOP, a separate book for each of the Language Mappings, a separate book for each of the services, and several domain specifications—Telecomms, Healthcare, Manufacturing, Finance, Business, and Transportation as well as OMG Modeling (UML, MOF and XMI). At this stage, the table of contents is refined and an index is added.

If you're building a product based on an OMG specification, you need to download the latest version of the specification.

The editing step happens to both new and revised specifications. During editing, the submission (that you found using Step 1) is the only source for a new specification, although the previous formal version will still be available for a revised spec. (Actually, all previous versions of all OMG specs are available in our archive.) If being up-to-date is important to you (for example, if you're building a product), be sure to use the version on the Recently Adopted Specifications page. In fact, if you're building a product based on a spec, you should be aware of current work at the OMG, as well as already-adopted specifications.

Step 3: I didn't find it in either place. What do I do now?

If you didn't find what you were looking for in either step 1 or step 2, then it's not an OMG specification—all of our specifications appear in one of those two places. But, we can think of at least two possible reasons why the spec you want might not be there:

It's not done yet. Check the OMG Work in Progress page.

It's been retired. Right now, only two previous OMG specifications fall into this category: the XCMF Management Facility (whose functionality was replaced by the CORBA Component Model), and the OpenDoc Compound Document Facility.

A third reason, we suppose, could be that you're mistaken about the existence of a spec. If you've completed your search and come up dry, but still feel that you've missed something somewhere, send email to webtech@omg.org telling us what specification you're looking for. We'll look it up and get back to you.

What's Coming Next?

We know that a lot of people who browse the OMG's website—whether members or not—need the information that we've collected here. But, we also know that it's not enough. We plan to rewrite the downloading instructions referenced in the second section of this article, and provide instructions for finding an exact version of a specification, and relating work in progress to both current and historic documents. But first, it turns out, we need to fix the way a specification's history is presented on our website. If you're a member, you may know how to reference historic documents already, but (take our word for it!) it's truly difficult to convey to a newbie just how to do this. Watch for these additional instructional pages, and the rest of the tutorial, as we continue our rewrite of the introductory to section of the OMG's website.

*This article has been condensed to meet space limitations. Please visit www.omg.org/gettingstarted/specsandprods.htm for a more complete overview of this topic. **

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New Staff

Here are some of the new staff that have joined the OMG in the past few months:

Fred Waskiewicz

Director of Standards

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Phone: +1-781-444 0404

Fred coordinates all of the OMG's member-driven specification-adoption processes.

He works closely with OMG members involved in creating and evaluating OMG specifications, drawing upon his experience as chair of the Manufacturing DTF.

Svetlana Orlova

Web Designer

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Lana is responsible for maintaining and managing the OMG's World Wide Web site. Comments and suggestions on the OMG's Webpages can be sent to webeditor@omg.org.

Vicki Vander Putten

Accounting/Customer Service Assistant

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Vicki supports Christina Winters in the finance department, is responsible for accounts receivable and also assists Cindy McComiskey with membership issues.

Jacob Maurer

Member Services Intern

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Jacob assists Cindy McComiskey in maintaining the OMG's member database, helps answer telephones and provides general support to the administrative department.

PROMOTION

Rudi Riess has been promoted to Director of Technical Services.

New Members' Spotlight

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How are OMG specifications and standards relevant to your business? We are on the cutting edge of legal standards for the storage of digital objects.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Number of employees: 7000+

Location: Washington, DC, USA

Products/Services offered: Policies for soldiers

URL: www.c3i.osd.mil

What factors made you decide to join the OMG? Open standards body; product focused (specifications developed only if vendor signs letter of intent); interoperability-driven; CORBA-based origin

How are OMG specifications and standards relevant to your business? The Department of Defense is outsourcing software development efforts to COTS products through stated policy and acquisition process. In order to conduct business on a global, enterprise or departmental basis, OSD requires COTS products to interoperate and is seeking out those organizations that push the same end.

SILVERGLOBE, INC.

Number of Employees: About 800

Locations: USA (Little Rock), Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Vietnam and the Philippines

Products/Services offered: Application Developer plus Enterprise Integration, mainly in the Areas of Banking and Finance/Airlines/Utilities

URL: www.silverglobe.com

What factors made you decide to join the OMG? Being active in high end Enterprise Integration, we are trying to stay with some standards like CORBA and at the same time mixing with groups of same interest.

SEGUE SOFTWARE, INC.

Number of employees: 340 (as of March 2000)

Locations: Lexington, MA, USA with offices across North America (Atlanta, Austin, Bridgewater, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Los Gatos, New York, San Francisco, Toronto and Washington, DC) and Europe (Belfast, Brussels, Hamburg, Linz, London and Munich).

Products/Services offered: Segue Software, Inc. is a leader in providing e-business reliability

software products. Segue develops and markets solutions that help companies deliver more reliable e-business systems. Partnering with clients deploying business-to-business and business-to-consumer sites, Segue helps them achieve dial-tone level reliability and a rapid, integrated quality assurance methodology. Segue delivers a comprehensive solution for ensuring the reliability of application-level transactions within complex middleware environments. Segue's Silk product family includes:

- SilkTest for automated functional and regression testing
- SilkPerformer for load and performance testing
- SilkPilot for functional and regression testing of Java programs through CORBA/IIOP, RMI and EJB interface specifications
- SilkObserver for diagnostics and monitoring of distributed Java and non-Java objects over IIOP
- SilkMeter for tracking of how Java server objects are used, enabling proper billing in e-commerce, collecting usage metrics and enforcing access rules

URL: www.segue.com

What factors made you decide to join the OMG? Participation in the OMG process allows Segue to help influence standards that are relevant to our application domain (ie, test), and to gain access to others in the industry who are creating and using CORBA-based products and applications.

How are OMG specifications and standards relevant to your business? Segue's business is helping e-businesses run reliably, which means providing testing and diagnostic solutions for mission critical systems. CORBA is an important part of e-business infrastructures, which means Segue must rely on OMG specifications and standards to build the necessary tools for our customers.

UNIMED TECHNOLOGIES, DIVISION OF DBSCI

Number of employees: 6

Location: Alexandria, VA, USA

Products/Services offered: Program/project planning and management, Quality Assurance, Project Audits, Facilitation, Requirements Analysis/design/development, Workflow Analysis

URL: Under construction

What factor made you decide to join the OMG? Our interest in CORBAmed.

How are OMG specifications and standards relevant to your business? We apply standards with our customer base. *

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- Organizational Structure Evaluation Work Group

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Although RTFs and FTFs fall under the jurisdiction of the technical Committees, not Task Forces and SIGs, they are shown here in that format in order to group together related activities.

Technical Committee Organizational Structure

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- **Python Mapping 1.1 RTF**
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What's Happening? Schedule of Upcoming Events

September 13-15, 2000

TINA 2000 CONFERENCE
Paris, France
Speaker - Richard Soley

September 14-16, 2000

**GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION OF
WOMEN IN COMPUTING 2000**
Hyannis, MA, USA
*Sponsored by OMG member Segue
Software*

September 11-15, 2000

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
Burlingame, CA, USA
Sponsored by Fujitsu, Ltd.

October 2-6, 2000

<<UML>>2000
York, UK

October 3-5, 2000

AIIM COPENHAGEN
Bella Center, Copenhagen,
Denmark
*OMG Members IBM and Canon
are exhibiting*

October 11-12, 2000

IT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS
Frankfurt, Germany
*Organized by OMG Marketing
Partner LogOn Technology and
OMG Member EURESCOM*

October 15-19, 2000

OOPSLA 2000
Minneapolis, MN, USA
OMG is exhibiting

October 16-17, 2000

ENTERPRISE MIDDLEWARE 2000
London, UK
Speaker - Fred Waskiewicz

October 29-November 2, 2000

SD 2000 EAST
Washington, DC, USA
OMG is exhibiting

November 6-9, 2000

**UML FOR THE .COM ENTERPRISE
WORKSHOP**
Palm Springs, CA, USA
*Hosted by the OMG, Co-sponsored
by Inline Software and Kabira
Technologies*

December 11-15, 2000

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
Orlando, FL, USA
Sponsored by ComponentSource

January 8-10, 2001

**W.O.R.D.S. (WORKSHOP ON OBJECT
REALTIME DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS)**
Rome, Italy
OMG is a cosponsor

January 29-February 1, 2001

**ENTERPRISE APPLICATION
INTEGRATION WORKSHOP**
Orlando, FL, USA
Sponsorships available

February 26-March 2, 2001

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
City TBD, CA, USA
*Sponsored by Hitachi Computer
Products (America), Inc.*

March 25-29, 2001

DOCSEC 2001 SECURITY WORKSHOP
Annapolis, MD, USA
Sponsorships available

April 23-27, 2001

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
Paris, France
*Co-sponsored by Alcatel, Thomp-
son-CSF. Additional sponsor TBA*

July 9-13, 2001**

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
Location TBD
Sponsor TBD

September, 2001**

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
Toronto, ON, Canada
Sponsor TBD

November/December, 2001**

OMG TECHNICAL MEETING WEEK
Dublin, Ireland
Sponsor TBD

** Details are not confirmed at this time.



Juergen Boldt, Senior Member of Technical Staff at the OMG, rides a tiger to a reception hosted by the Mayor of Oslo at City Hall during the OMG's Technical Meeting Week, June 11-16.

For more pictures, visit <http://www.soley.com/oslo.html>. A wrap-up of the technical work from that meeting is at <http://www.omg.org/news/releases/pr2000/2000-06-23b.htm>

OMG Member News

NEW MEMBERS

The OMG welcomes these new members: Component Management Group (Training and Internet), Aachen University of Technology, Informatik 4 (Research), ALLTEL Information Services (Telecom and Finance), Atraxis Group (IT Solutions provider for Travel and Transportation), Buzzeo Inc. (Software Development and Service), Corporate Interactive COIN AG (Software Development), CREON Software GmbH (Software Development), DESAN Marktonderzoek BV (Market Research), Dublin Institute of Technology (Education), EDB 4tel (Software and Consulting for Telecom & Banking), Elektrotechnicki fakultet Banja Luka (Education), Graphic Communications Association (Standards Development), IRIS-Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (Acquisition and Distribution of Seismic Data), iWitness.net (Secure Messaging and Archiving), Long Island University (Education), Objecttools (Open Component Market), OMSOFT Network Technologies (Systems Integrator/Distributed Software Development), Program Utvikling A/S (Consulting and Training), SanPaoloImi-Dipartimento Organizzazione e Sistemi (Bank), SCT (Software and Sciences), Silverglobe, Inc. (Software Research and Development), SOL-TEC Soluzioni Tecnologiche srl (System Integration), STN ATLAS Elektronik GmbH Naval Division (Naval Systems), The Boer Group (Distributed Object Computing Consulting), U S West IT, Inc. (Telecommunications), University of Edinburgh-Centre for Educational Sociology (Research), University of Extremadura (Education), University of Kent at Canterbury, Computing Lab (Research and Education), update.com software AG (e-CRM Software Vendor), US Office for the Secretary of Defense (OSD) (Government), Vayda & Herzum (Consulting Services and Distributed System Design.)

NAME CHANGES

- Incyte Pharmaceuticals changed their name to Incyte Genomics, Inc.
- ObjectSwitch changed to Kabira Technologies, Inc.
- ISA Services changed to Bauhaus Technologies
- Keyworth Institute changed to CADDETC

- Economica AS changed to netAccount AS
- Adventive Technologies changed to GOWarehouse.com
- Sage IT Partners changed to Xpedior
- Numerica-Taskon changed to mogul.com
- Bohus IT changed to ProRegio
- Helsinki Telephone Corporation changed to Elisa Communications, Research
- HighComm changed to Highlander Engineering, Inc.
- Grierson Gilchrist changed to Arjuna Solutions Ltd
- META changed to METRIS GmbH
- International Middleware Association changed to Business Integration Group (BIG)
- Pangea Systems changed to DoubleTwist
- Cherwell Scientific changed to FamilyGenetix Limited
- Genesis Development Corporation changed to Genesis IONA
- EIS International changed to Portal Connect
- DISAM changed to Universidad Politecnica de Madrid
- Visual Edge changed to Actional

NEWS

Segue Software announced its new eConfidence University initiative. Through the new university outreach program, Segue will work with educational institutions to train information technology (IT) students in Web application scalability and reliability testing, as well as the methodologies the company has developed through its work with hundreds of corporations. Additionally, Segue will work with universities to design IT courses that prepare students to handle the challenges of designing and managing large-scale e-business applications upon graduation.

Advanced Software Technologies Inc., developers of the award winning visual modeling tool GDPPro, (recently chosen as the "Best Team Development Tool" by the readers of Java Pro) announced support for the ICONIX process, a lightweight, use-case driven, object oriented development process in widespread use across industry today. This partnership brings together leading UML visual modeling technology provided

by GDPPro and best-in-class software process support provided by ICONIX. The ICONIX process uses a minimal but sufficient core subset of UML. GDPPro, an industry leading UML visual modeling tool, fills a key need of software organizations, supporting design of new applications and discovery and documentation of existing software assets. Together, Advanced Software and ICONIX provide an integrated solution for improved management of software application development.

IONA announced it has purchased Genesis Development Corporation of West Chester, Pennsylvania for \$24 million in cash and IONA stock. Genesis Development brings more than 40 people to IONA with expertise in the insurance and financial services markets. The addition of Genesis Development to IONA's Professional Services will benefit customers by providing a complete solution—consisting of the iPortal Suite, best practices, services and skilled consultants—for designing, developing and deploying enterprise portals in the insurance and financial services industries.

IONA also announced that Genesis' CEO Jason Matthews will become IONA's Vice President of Worldwide Professional Services, reporting to IONA's Executive Vice President of Business Operations, Bob Potter.

Bluestone Software announced the appointment of industry luminary Anthony I. Wasserman as vice president of its new West Coast Lab, based in Redwood Shores, California.

*This column is for company announcements and name changes. If you have information to submit, please send it to the editor at chrisvr@omg.org (no product announcements, please). **

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