

# **BPMI Merger with OMG**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What happened with BPMI and OMG?**

A: BPMI has merged its activities into OMG. This was not a merger of two corporations, but rather a combination of both organizations' activities in the realm of Business Process, Business Modeling and Business Rules. This is a broad umbrella, and all activities of BPMI that attract member interest will be continued.

**Q: How will BPMI's activities continue within OMG?**

A: BPMI's specifications and other intellectual property have been transferred to OMG, and OMG will maintain and promote them. BPMI members are being invited to join OMG and participate in the work at OMG. All specifications work will be done within an OMG Task Force and subject to the OMG Policies and Procedures. OMG will maintain BPMI's urls and the contents of its website, and we will promote the BPMI brand, as part of our marketing of OMG's activities. There will be an annual BPM Think Tank event.

**Q: What will happen with BPMN?**

A: The process to formally adopt BPMN (Business Process Modeling Notation) as an OMG standard will begin immediately this fall and will proceed via the normal RFP (Request for Proposal) or RFC (Request for Comment) process.

**Q: What about the educational activities and thought leadership provided by BPMI?**

A: A new advisory body called the BPMI Steering Committee will be formed, to provide advice and expertise with respect to BPM-related initiatives and to act as a key source of BPM thought leadership throughout the industry. Initially, it will be made up of the current members of the BPMI Board of Directors who are or become OMG members, and the current co-chairs of the BEIDTF, Fred Cummins and Stan Hendryx. The Task Force will elect the Committee's members annually.

**Q: When will the new joint BPM activity begin?**

A: The big kickoff event will be at the OMG Technical Meeting in Atlanta, GA on September 12-16, 2005 - <http://www.omg.org/registration/registration-info.htm>. Decisions will be made by the Task Force about the way BPMI's work will be continued, whether the Task Force's name should be changed to reflect the addition of BPMI's activities, and who will lead the Task Force and the Steering Committee. There will also be a BPM Information Day at this meeting. All OMG members at that time can participate in the Task Force, make their voice heard and vote on these important issues. BPMI members that have not joined OMG before the meeting will not be able to participate or influence the future direction of BPMI's work.

**Q: Can BPMI members join OMG?**

A: All BPMI Class A (corporations) and Class C (universities, non-profits, etc.) members are welcome to join OMG. Individual members of BPMI will have the opportunity to participate in a forum that is expected to be managed by WARIA (Workflow And Reengineering International Association). OMG is not directly involved in that process.

**Important Note** – As discussed in the previous FAQ, BPMI members who do not join OMG before OMG's September Technical Meeting will lose the ability to participate in the critical decisions that will be made at that meeting.

**Q: What will the cost be to BPMI members?**

A: BPMI Class A (corporate) members in good standing who join OMG by October 31, 2005, will receive a credit of up to \$5,000 against their first year of OMG membership fees. That means that, in that first year of OMG membership, a \$2,500 membership will be free, a \$5,000 membership will be free, \$10,000 membership will be \$5,000, and so on. In the second year of their OMG membership, all normal fees will apply. BPMI Class C members who join OMG in the next few months will be charged the usual small fee or, in the case of non-profits, may receive a free membership swap. This credit is only available to organizations that are not currently members of OMG.

**Q: Why is this good for the industry?**

A: The development of Business Process-related standards has been split between a variety of organizations, whose work has sometimes been duplicative. OMG's proven standards process will help make BP standards a reality faster.

**Q: What is the relationship with WfMC?**

A: OMG has had a long-standing relationship with WfMC. WfMC has expressed its support of the merger with BPMI, and both organizations are committed to working together to advance our complementary missions. WfMC concentrates on the execution of workflow systems; OMG, with the addition of BPMI, concentrates on business processes at the business analyst level.