Promoting Interoperability Through Registration of Standards Efforts

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Karl Best
Director of Technical Operations, OASIS
Interoperability Summit, Dec 2001: Barriers to Interoperability

- Turf battles / Not Invented Here
- Scope and process differences
- Different technical models and architectures
- Lack of common vocabulary
- Information sharing
Specific Action Items

1. Identify overlaps, potential liaison partners
2. Set up relationships; agree to cooperate
Scenario #1:

- As a standards organization manager or participant, I suspect that other organizations are doing work similar to that done by some of my technical committees.
- My organization or committee can’t create all specifications, but I want to know that everything is being done, somewhere.
Scenario #2:

• As a developer or engineering manager, I suspect that a standard has been developed for a certain topic, but I’m not sure where to go to get it.

• I suspect that a standard is being developed, and I want to be involved as it effects the products I am developing.
The problem:

- Where can I find out who is doing what?
  - What standards groups are developing what specifications?
- Web searches don’t give useful results
  - Everyone describes their work differently
The solution:

- A means of discovering and identifying what work each standards group is doing
The goal:

• For standards developers
  – Promote collaborative standards work
  – Promote interoperable specifications
  – Prevent overlap or duplicative work
  – Promote involvement of all interested parties

• For standards users
  – Promote involvement of all interested parties in standards development process
  – Promote use of and adherence to standards by vendors
The Standards Registry Committee

- Call For Participation January 2002, first meeting February
- Ad hoc committee; not under any organization’s process
- Charter adopted at first meeting
- Officers: Karl Best (OASIS), chair; John Ketchell (CEN/ISSS), secretariat; Bob Hager (ANSI), editor
- [www.oasis-open.org/standardsregistry](http://www.oasis-open.org/standardsregistry)
The plan

• Phase 1: Develop metadata for a registry of standards efforts
  – Standardized description of SDO work
• Phase 2: Implementation
  – Standards groups requested to describe their work using the metadata
What this is not...

- Repository of the documents themselves (specifications, schemas, business objects, etc.)
- Initiative to build registries
  - Instead, urge owners of existing registries to use the metadata
Metadata

• Common metadata for each entry
  – Name, status, owner, etc.
  – Relationship with other work

• Consistent description for better search results

• (Details presented by Bob Hager)
Call for action

- Need input from many standards groups
- Goal is to have the metadata be able to adequately describe all standards groups’ work
How to judge success

• All registries/lists of standards work on all sites using the metadata?
• ~100% of standards activities registered somewhere? What scope?
Current status

• Metadata in late draft stage
• Public review soon
Next phase: Hosting

• Promote the adoption of the metadata with various organizations that already have registries or lists of standards work
Karl Best
Director, Technical Operations
OASIS
karl.best@oasis-open.org
978-667-5115 x206