OASIS: Interoperability Opportunities and Obstacles

Patrick Gannon
President & C.E.O.
OASIS
OASIS – Interop. Summit Agenda

- OASIS Overview
- OASIS Convergence Activities
- Technical Committee Activities
- ebXML Status
- Global Adoption
Patrick Gannon

- OASIS – C.E.O., President, Board Director
- UN/ECE – Chair, Team of Specialists for Internet Enterprise Development (2000-02)
- BEA Systems – Sr. VP Strategic Marketing
- Netfish Technologies – VP Industry Standards
- Open Buying on the Internet (OBI) – Exec. Dir.
- CommerceNet – VP Strategic Programs – XML Evangelist (1997-99)
OASIS provides a framework for XML interoperability that is critical to the future success of electronic business. OASIS puts the control of XML specifications firmly in the hands of those who will use them.

Jon Bosak, Sun Microsystems  
“Father of XML”  
Organizer of the Working Group that Created XML
Overview

- OASIS is a member consortium dedicated to building systems interoperability specifications.
- We focus on industry applications of structured information standards, such as XML, SGML, & CGM.
- Members of OASIS are providers, users and specialists of standards-based technologies & include organizations, individuals & industry groups.
  - ~200 organizational members, ~200 individual members
- International, Not-for-profit, Open, Independent
- Successful through industry-wide collaboration
OASIS Value

• Comprehension of and support for the Standards Process
  – OASIS experts charter the course to rapid development and adoption

• Democratic Process including an Elected Board of Directors and comprehensive Intellectual Property and Anti-Trust Policies
  – Work is guaranteed to be representative of the industry as a whole, not any one vendor’s view

• Global Visibility and Critical Partnerships
  – OASIS draws participation from around the world and aggressively promotes the work – to ensure viability and adoption
Sponsor Members

- Accenture
- Access360
- Adobe Systems, Inc.
- Altova GmbH
- Arbortext, Inc.
- Auto-trol Technology Corp.
- Aventail Corp.
- Baltimore Technologies
- B-Bop Associates
- BEA Systems, Inc.
- Bentley Systems
- Bowstreet
- Business Logic Corp.
- Chrystal Software
- Cincom Systems
- Citrix Systems
- Cohesia Corporation
- CommerceOne
- Critical Path
- CrossLogix
- Cyclone Commerce
- DataChannel, Inc.
- Dataloom, Inc.
- Deutsche Post AG
- Documentum
- EADS Airbus SA
- election.com
- empolis
- Engage
- Enigma, Inc.
- Epicentric, Inc.
- Excelergy Corp.
- Extrinsicity Software
- Fujitsu
- Hewlett-Packard
- IBM
- Identrus
- Informix Software, Inc.
- Infoteria
- Innodata Corporation
- Intel
- Interwoven, Inc.
- IONA
- IPNet Solutions, Inc.
- ITEDO Software GmbH
- Ivis Group Limited
- Jamcracker
- Logistics Mgmt Inst.
- Mediaplex
- Mercator Software
- Microsoft Corporation
- NeoCore
- Netegrity, Inc.
- Netscape/AOL
- NextPage, LC
- NI1 Enterprise Promotion Assoc.
- Nimble Technology
- NIST
- Novell
- ObjectSpace, Inc.
- Oblix
- OpenNetwork Technologies
- Oracle
- Pearson Education
- Planet 7 Technologies
- Popkin Software
- Republica
- Reuters Limited
- SAA Consultants
- Sabre
- SAP
- Securant Technologies
- SeeBeyond
- Silverstream Software
- SoftQuad Software Inc.
- Software AG
- Sterling Commerce
- StreamServe, Inc.
- Sun Microsystems
- Sybase
- Tata Consultancy Services
- The Boeing Company
- The Tamalpais Group, Inc.
- Thomas Technology Solution
- Tibco
- Unisys Corporation
- US Defense Information Systems Agency
- Virtual Access Networks
- Vitria
- webMethods, Inc.
- Whitehill Technologies, Inc.
- Xerox Corporation
- XML Global
- XMLSolutions Corporation
- Xyvision Enterprise Solutions

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Board of Directors

• Colin Evans, Intel Corporation
• Patrick J. Gannon, OASIS
• Jim Hughes, Hewlett Packard
• Una Kearns, Documentum
• Christopher Kurt, Microsoft
• Norbert H. Mikula, DataChannel
• Simon Nicholson, Sun Microsystems
• Michael Weiner, IBM Corporation
OASIS standards process

- Standards are created under an open, democratic, vendor-neutral process
  - Any interested parties may participate, comment
  - No one organization can dictate the standard
  - Ensures that standards meet everyone’s needs, not just largest players’
- Open to all interested parties
- All discussion open to public comment
- One organization - One vote
- Resulting work is guaranteed to be representative of the industry as a whole, not just any one vendor’s view
What OASIS Offers Industry

- Time to Market: don’t waste your time and effort setting up
  - Committee process
  - Infrastructure (web site, mail lists)
  - IPR policy
  - Copyright protection
  - Program Management
  - Marketing/Promotion
  - Anti-trust

- Use your technical expertise on technical work, not on setting up administrative overhead
What OASIS Offers Its Members

• Opportunity to pursue technical work in a neutral environment
  – Buy-in and support from other developing and implementing organizations

• Opportunity to set the technical agenda of a recognized industry standards organization
  – OASIS member-driven technical process
XML.org

• Central clearinghouse for accessing XML schemas, vocabularies and related documents
• Self-supporting, non-commercial resource created by and for the community at large
• Foster collaboration within and between industries
XML.org

• Features
  – XML.org Registry
  – XML.org Catalog
  – XML.org Portal
  – xml-dev mail list
The XML Cover Pages

- The authoritative resource for XML info
  - News
  - Press Releases
  - Product Information
  - Specifications
  - Whitepapers

- http://xml.coverpages.org
The XML Cover Pages

XML Cover Pages News

US Office of Justice Programs Coordinates the Creation of XML-based Integrated Justice Data Exchange Standards

The US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs has established an XML Technology Working Group to coordinate the efforts of federal and state agencies in the design of interoperable standards for criminal history and public safety records. The working group has published a data dictionary with some 128 XML Schemas based upon existing XML specifications for criminal history data.

OASIS Technical Committee Proposed for TransQuery

A proposal has been made for the creation of a TransQuery OASIS Technical Committee. Currently a SourceForge project, TransQuery is a small, flexible set of XSLT conventions and processing model constraints that enable the use of XSLT as a query language over multiple XML documents. An OASIS mailing list has been formed for the discussion of TransQuery.

New Release of Open Source NewsML Toolkit

NewsML Toolkit version 1.1 beta has been released, it is an open-source Java library for reading and processing NewsML documents. Version 1.1 beta constitutes an extensive rewrite of the version 1.0 NewsML Toolkit. It has full XPath support, high-level support for formal names and basis-for-choice selection, and an extensible conformance test library (300+ unit tests).

ContentGuard Releases XMetaL Version 2.0 and Submits Specification to Standards Bodies

ContentGuard, Inc. recently announced the release of XMetaL (Extensible Markup Language) version 2.0, confirming also that XMetaL has been submitted to MSBO. XMetaL is a general-purpose, XML-based specification grammar for expressing
Member Sections

- CGM Open
- Topic Maps
Convergence Activities
Orgs Move Specs to OASIS

- ADpr Initiative
- AuthXML.Org
- ITML.Org
- S2ML.Org
- TopicMaps.Org
- WSUI.Org
- XRPM Working Group
Vendors Migrate Specs to OASIS

- WSXL from IBM - WSCM TC
- XOCP from BEA Systems - BTP TC
- xCBL from Commerce One - UBL TC
- ITML from Jamcracker - PSML TC
- CRML from MSI Business Sol. - CIQ TC
Convergence Happens at OASIS

- AuthXML and S2ML ➔ SAML
- TREX and RELAX ➔ RELAX NG
- WSUI and WSXL ➔ WSCM
- XRPM, ADpr, ITML ➔ PSML
“I am very pleased with how the OASIS standards process works. The OASIS RELAX NG TC completed a high-quality spec which substantially improves on the languages that served as its basis (TREX and RELAX) without adding complexity.”

James Clark
Contributor to XML, Linux...
Chair of OASIS RELAX NG TC
Technical Committee Activities
TC status

• Currently 20 OASIS Technical Committees and one Member Section

• Increase of over a dozen new TCs since late 2000

• Additional proposals in the works...

• Expect to have 6-8 TCs submitting Committee Specifications to OASIS membership for review by Q1 of 2002
Progression of OASIS technical work

- Any three OASIS members propose creation of a technical committee (TC)
- Existing technical work submitted to OASIS TC; or TC starts work at the beginning
- TC completes technical work
- TC votes to approve work as an OASIS Committee Specification
- TC votes to submit the Committee Specification to OASIS membership for consideration
- OASIS membership reviews, approves the Committee Specification as an OASIS Standard
OASIS standards process

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• All discussion open to public comment

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Current Technical Committees

- Access Control (XACML)
- Business Transaction Protocol (BTP)
- Conformance
- Customer Information (CIQ)
- Directory Services (DSML)
- DocBook
- ebXML CPPA
- ebXML IIC
- ebXML Messaging
- ebXML Registry
- Election Services
- Entity Resolution
- Human Markup
- Provisioning Services
- RELAX NG
- Security Services
- Topic Maps Published Subj.
- Universal Business Language
- Web Services Component Model
- XML Conformance
- XSLT Conformance
- CGM Open (member section)
OASIS Technical Committees – e-Commerce

- Access Control (XACML)
- Security Services (SAML)
- Business Transactions (BTP)
- ebXML Messaging
- ebXML Registry
- ebXML CPPA
- ebXML Implementation and Conformance
- Universal Business Language (UBL)
OASIS Technical Committees – Web Services

- Provisioning Services
- Web Services Component Model
OASIS Technical Committees - Interoperability

- DSML
- Entity Resolution
- HumanMarkup
- RELAX NG
- TopicMaps Published Subjects
OASIS Technical Committees – Industry/Vertical

- Customer Information (CIQ)
- DocBook
- Election Services
OASIS Technical Committees - Conformance

- Conformance (guidelines)
- XML Conformance (completed)
- XSLT Conformance
OASIS Technical Committees - Future

- Upcoming technical committees for additional Web Services, Topic Maps, Security, Localization, others
Technical Committee Details

• Most current status of each TC available at http://oasis-open.org/committees/committees.shtml

• TC mail list archives available at http://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/
For more information...

- www.oasis-open.org
- xml.coverpages.org/
- www.xml.org
ebXML enables anyone, anywhere to do business with anyone else over the Internet.
ebXML Provides a Standard Way to:

- Exchange business messages
- Conduct trading relationships
- Communicate data in common terms
- Define and register business processes
ebXML History

• Begun as 18-month initiative in November 1999
• Specifications delivered on schedule in May 2001
• Developed in an open process by more than 4500 participants representing 2000 organizations in 150 countries on virtually every continent
- United Nations Center for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
- Developers of EDIFACT
- One of four organizations in the world that can set de jure standards
- World’s largest independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the standardization of XML applications
- More than 400 members in 26 countries
What does ebXML do?

- Lowers the cost/complexity of electronic business
- Facilitates global trade and puts SMEs and developing nations in the picture
- Expands electronic business to new and existing trading partners
- Converges current and emerging XML efforts
- Eliminates dependence by supporting any language, any payload, any transport
ebXML Specs--Modular Suite

- Technical Architecture
- Business Process
- Registry and Repository
- Collaboration Protocol Profile and Agreement
- Message Services
- Core Components
ebXML: Built on Existing Standards

- HTTP
- TCP/IP
- MIME
- SMTP
- FTP
- UML
- SOAP
- XML
**ebXML Architecture**

- **Business Process and Information Models**
  - UML to XML conversion
  - Retrieval of New or Updated ebXML Models
  - Registration
  - Retrieval of Profiles & new or updated ebXML Models

- **Repository**
  - Build
  - Retrieval of ebXML Specifications & Models

- **Implementers**
  - Build

- **Internal Bus App**
  - Build

- **Shrinkwrap App**
  - Build

- **Biz Service Interface**

- **ebXML Transport**

- **TPA**

- **Package**

- **Copyright OASIS, 2001**
Who’s implementing ebXML now?
Backed by Vendors
Is ebXML going to replace industry specific vocabularies?
“ebXML provides a platform on which to build standards that are developed faster and yet supported by a rich set of software tools.”
ebXML Adoption Making Headlines

• RosettaNet Adopts ebXML in RNIF
• Covisint (GM, Ford, Daimler-Chrysler) Supports ebXML for Automotive Industry
• OpenTravel Alliance Specs Recommend ebXML
• Open Applications Group Integrates ebXML into 182 Business Transaction Standards
• Global Commerce Initiative (GCI) Adopts ebXML in Data Exchange Standard for B2B Trade in Consumer Goods
“Unlike the general category of Web services, which has seen its share of vendor adaptation, ebXML has been successful in attracting the support of industry heavyweights across all industries.”
Backed by Industry Groups
“We've got to pound a stake in the ground and move forward. ebXML is the stake we've chosen.”

Jeff Cripps
Director of Industry Relations
Covisint
(eBusiness exchange founded by General Motors, Ford and Daimler-Chrysler)
What’s next?
ebXML Work Continues

- OASIS UN/CEFACT ebXML Coordination Cmte
- OASIS UN/CEFACT ebXML Marketing Team
- OASIS UN/CEFACT ebXML Tech Architecture
- OASIS ebXML Collaboration Protocol Profile TC
- OASIS ebXML Implementation/Interoperability TC
- OASIS ebXML Messaging Services TC
- OASIS ebXML Registry TC
- UN/CEFACT e-Business Transition Ad hoc WG (eBTWG)
What do I need to remember about ebXML?
ebXML Moving Forward

- ebXML specs are complete and publicly available.
- ebXML integrates SOAP and seeks convergence with other standards.
- ebXML is being adopted by standards groups around the world including RosettaNet, GCI, Covisint, OAGI, OMG, OpenTravel Alliance, HL7…
- ebXML products are being announced daily by companies that include Bind Systems, XML Global…
- UN/CEFACT and OASIS jointly support ebXML.
Get involved in ebXML

• Download the specs from www.ebxml.org
• Join OASIS
• Subscribe to ebXML-DEV mail list
• Review public archives of OASIS ebXML TC work
• Encourage your industry group to adopt ebXML specifications in standards
• Specify ebXML-compliance from providers
“ebXML is our only chance this decade to establish an international e-commerce standard.”
UN/ECE Team of Specialists on Internet Enterprise Development

- United Nations - Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva
- Committee for Trade, Industry & Enterprise Development
- WP8 - Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development
TSIED E-Transition Programme

- UN/ECE Advisory Council on Digital Economy
- E-Government Development
- Internet Infrastructure Development
- E-Payment Systems Development
- UN/ECE-ITU Joint E-Learning Programme
- Virtual SME Development
- Best Practices on the Use of ebXML
Summary
The international presence of OASIS, especially the expertise and resources that its members bring, is very significant and accelerates global development efforts such as ebXML

Ray Walker, United Nations/CEFACT
Developers of XML vocabularies and schemas look to OASIS as a central community resource that is open and objective.

Lon Pilot
HR-XML.ORG
For More Information...

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