Creating A Single Global Electronic Market

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5 # ebXML TR - Naming Convention for Core Components

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8 # ebXML Core Components

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11 10 May 2001

12 Version 1.04

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1   Status of this Document

This Technical Report document has been approved by the Core Component Project
Team and has been accepted by the ebXML Plenary.

This document contains information to guide in the interpretation or implementation of
ebXML concepts.

Distribution of this document is unlimited.

The document formatting is based on the Internet Society's Standard RFC format.

This version:
   www.ebxml.org/specs/ebCCNAM.pdf

Latest version:
   www.ebxml.org/specs/ebCCNAM.pdf

38 2   ebXML participants

39 We would like to recognize the following for their significant participation to the
40 development of this document.
41
42 Editing team: Mike Adcock   APACS
43   Sue Probert   Commerce One
44   James Whittle   e CentreUK
45   Gait Boxman   TIE
46   Thomas Becker   SAP
47
48 Team Leader: Hartmut Hermes   Siemens
49
50 Contributors:
51   Andreas Schultz   GDV
52   Eddy Dermience   EDIFER
53
54

54 ## 3 **Table of Contents**

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73

73   4   Introduction

74   *4.1 Summary of Contents of Document*

75   This specification specifies the rules for naming ebXML Core Components and Business
76   Processes.
77
78   In addition to the naming convention rules that lead to a Dictionary Entry Name, the
79   document also provides rules for creating definitions. It also establishes the principle of
80   synonyms to cover the instances where a commonly used business term equates to a well-
81   formed Dictionary Entry Name according to the rules.
82
83   The keywords MUST, MUST NOT, REQUIRED, SHALL, SHALL NOT, SHOULD,
84   SHOULD NOT, RECOMMENDED, MAY, and OPTIONAL, when they appear in this
85   document, are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.
86

87   *4.2 Audience*

88   The target audiences for this document include business domain experts and technical
89   experts.
90

91   *4.3   Related Documents*

92   These include ebXML Technical Reports on the following topics:
93   • [ccCTLG] Guide to the Core Component Dictionary Ver 1.04
94   • [ebCCD&A] Core Component Discovery and Analysis Ver 1.04
95

96   5   Basic Information Entities – data element level

97   *5.1 Introduction*

98   These rules are derived from the guidelines and principles described in document ISO
99   11179 (Guidelines for Structured Naming Conventions). In certain instances, these
100 guidelines have been adapted to the ebXML Core Component environment. In particular,
101 the guidelines have been extended to cover not only the naming of basic information
102 entities or data elements but also to cover the naming of aggregated information entities.
103
104 Each ebXML basic information entity is defined by a:
105
106 • **Dictionary Entry Name** (Mandatory). Name of the component as derived from
107   these naming convention rules. It consists of an *Object Class*, *Property Term* and
108   *Representation Type.*
109

110   • **Definition** (Mandatory). The definition of a Dictionary Entry shall provide the real
111   business use of that entry. It shall use a structure that allows that entry to be easily
112   distinguished between the following: *Object Class*, the *Property Term*, and its
113   *Representation Type*.
114
115   **Note:** Rules for creating definitions are provided in Section 8 of this document**.**
116
117   • **Business term** (Optional). If the Dictionary Entry Name is different from the term
118   used in business, then this business term shall also be presented as synonym. There
119   may be several business terms or synonyms.
120   ▪ Dictionary Entry Name   e.g. Account.Identifier; Purchase Order.Identifier
121   ▪ Business Term   e.g. Account Number; Order Number, PO Number
122

5.2 Naming Rules

124   **Rule 1:**   The Dictionary Entry Name shall be unique and shall consist of *Object
125   Class*, a *Property Term* and *Representation Type.*
126
127   **Rule 2:**   "The *Object Class* represents the logical data grouping (in a logical data
128   model) to which a data element belongs" (ISO11179). The *Object Class* is
129   the part of a core component's Dictionary Entry Name that represents an
130   activity or object in a context.
131
132   An *Object Class* may be individual or aggregated from core components.
133   It may be named by using more than one word.
134
135   **Rule 3:**   The *Property Term* shall represent the distinguishing characteristic of the
136   business entity. The *Property Term* shall occur naturally in the definition.
137
138   **Rule 4:**   The *Representation Type* shall describe the form of the set of valid values
139   for an information element. It shall be one of the terms specified in the
140   "list of *Representation Types*" as included in this document.
141
142   **Note**: If the *Representation Type* of an entry is "code" there is often a
143   need for an additional entry for its textual representation. The *Object Class*
144   and *Property Term* of such entries shall be the same.
145   (Example : "Car.colour.code" and "Car.colour.text").
146
147   **Rule 5:**   A Dictionary Entry Name shall not contain consecutive redundant words.
148   If the *Property Term* uses the same word as the *Representation Type*, this
149   word shall be removed from the *Property Term* part of the Dictionary
150   Entry Name.
151
152   For example: If the *Object Class* is "goods" , the *Property Term* is
153   "delivery date", and *Representation Type* is "date", the Dictionary Entry
154   Name is 'Goods. Delivery. Date'.

155
156   In adoption of this rule the *Property Term* "Identification" could be
157   omitted if the *Representation Type* is "Identifier".
158
159   For example: The identifier of a party ("Party. Identification. Identifier")
160   will be truncated to "Party. Identifier".
161
162   **Rule 6:**   One and only one *Property Term* is normally present in a Dictionary Entry
163   Name although there may be circumstances where no property term is
164   included; e.g. Currency Code.
165
166   **Rule 7:**   The *Representation Type* shall be present in a Dictionary Entry Name. It
167   must not be truncated.
168
169   **Rule 8:**   To identify an object or a person by its name the *Representation Type*
170   "name" shall be used..
171
172   **Rule 9:**   A Dictionary Entry Name and all its components shall be in singular form
173   unless the concept itself is plural; e.g. goods.
174
175   **Rule 10:**   An *Object Class* as well as a *Property Term* may be composed of one or
176   more words.
177
178   **Rule 11:**   The components of a Dictionary Entry Name shall be separated by dots
179   and a following space character. The words in multi-word *Object Classes*
180   and multi-word *Property Terms* shall be separated by the space character.
181   Every word shall start with a capital letter.
182
183   **Rule 12:**   Non-letter characters may only be used if required by language rules.
184
185   **Rule 13:**   Abbreviations, acronyms and initials shall not be used as part of a
186   Dictionary Entry Name, except where they are used within business terms
187   like real words; e.g. EAN.UCC global location number, DUNS number
188
189   **Rule 14:**   All accepted acronyms and abbreviations shall be included in an ebXML
190   glossary.
191

5.3 Language specific rules

193   **Rule 15:**   The dictionary content will be in English Language following the primary
194   Oxford Dictionary English spellings. This assures unambiguous spelling.
195
196   **Rule 16:**   There may be restrictions in specific languages, which need to be applied
197   when transforming the ebXML Component Catalogue into other
198   languages. These restrictions may be formulated as additional rules and
199   added as separated language specific annexes to this document.

...

200 # 6   List of Representation Types

The following list contains the permissible *Representation Types (as defined with ISO 11179).*

ebXML Definition	Representation Type
A number of monetary units specified in a currency where the unit of currency is explicit or implied. Points to the CCT Amount Type	**Amount**
A character string (letters, figures or symbols) that for brevity and / or language independency may be used to represent or replace a definitive value or text of an attribute. Codes usually are maintained in code lists per attribute type (e.g. colour). Points to the CCT Code Type	**Code**
A day within a particular calendar year. Note: Reference ISO 8601. Points to the CCT Date Type	**Date**
A particular point in the progression of time. Points to the CCT Date Type	**DateAndTime**
A character string used to identify and distinguish uniquely, one instance of an object within an identification scheme from all other objects within the same scheme.	**Identifier**
A list of two, and only two, values which indicate a condition such as on/off; true/false etc. (synonym: "boolean")	**Indicator**
A numeric value determined by measuring an object. Measures are specified with a unit of measure. The applicable units of measure is taken from UN/ECE Rec. 20. Points to the CCT Measure Type	**Measure**
A word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of a person, place, thing or concept.	**Name**
A rate expressed in hundredths between two values that have the same unit of measure.	**Percent**
A number of non-monetary units. It is associated with the indication of objects. Quantities need to be specified with a unit of quantity Points to the CCT Quantity type	**Quantity**
A quantity or amount measured with respect to another measured quantity or amount, or a fixed or appropriate charge, cost or value e.g. US Dollars per hour, US Dollars per EURO, kilometre per litre, etc.	**Rate**
A character string generally in the form of words of a language. Points to the CCT Text type	**Text**
The time within a (not specified) day. Reference ISO 8601:1988. Points to the CCT Date type	**Time**

201

7   Naming of Aggregate Information Entities

Each ebXML aggregate information entity is defined by a:

- **Dictionary Entry Name** (Mandatory). Name of the component, created following these naming convention rules. It consists of an *Object Class* and its *Property Term*.

  Core Component Types documented on their own do not have a *Representation Type*. Their different components normally have mixed *Representation Types*. As soon as a business entity re-uses a Core Component Type, the *Representation Type* of its component carrying the real business value shall be allocated to this re-used Core Component Type. Core Component Types will use the *Property Term* "Type".

  Aggregates shall use the *Property Term* "Details".

  According to Trade/CEFACT/1999/3 recommendations, aggregates which are composed of core components having different *Representation Types* must not be linked to a *Representation Type*.

- **Definition** (Mandatory). The definition of an aggregate shall provide the real business use. It shall use a structure which provides a clear distinction between the *Object Class* and the *Property Term*.

- **Business term** (Optional). If the Dictionary Entry Name is different from the term used in business, then this business term shall also be presented as a synonym. There may be several business terms or synonyms.

  - Dictionary Entry Name   e.g. Consignment Cash-on-Delivery Amount. Details
  - Business Term   e.g. Consignment Cash-on-Delivery Amount

230 # 8 Rules for Components' Definitions

231 This is a collection of rules that have been agreed upon during the development of the
232 initial set of core components:
233

234 • To avoid the definition simply being a regurgitated version of the Dictionary Entry
235 Name, the definition should repeat the Dictionary Entry Name followed by "is" and
236 provide an understandable definition afterwards, which should also be translatable.
237

238 • One of the fundamental principles specified in IS0 11179, and supported by ebXML,
239 is that the definition should be developed first and the Dictionary Entry Name should
240 be extracted from it.
241
242

243 **9 Disclaimer**

244 The views and specification expressed in this document are those of the authors and are
245 not necessarily those of their employers. The authors and their employers specifically
246 disclaim responsibility for any problems arising from correct or incorrect implementation
247 or use of this design.

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248 **10 Contact Information**

249   Team Leader
250   Name   Hartmut Hermes
251   Company   Siemens AG
252   Street   Richard Strauss Strasse 76
253   City, state, zip/other 81679 Munich
254   Nation   Germany
255
256   Phone: (089) 92 21-4564
257   Email: hartmut.hermes@mch11.siemens.de
258
259   Editor
260   Name   James Whittle
261   Company   e centre^{UK}
262   Street   10, Maltravers Street
263   City, state, zip/other London
264   Nation   UK
265
266   Phone: +44-20-7655-9022
267   Email: james.whittle@e-centre.org.uk
268

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