



Creating A Single Global Electronic Market

Glossary

v1.0

Technical Architecture Team

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1 Status of this Document

This document is a ebXML Reference Document for the eBusiness community.

Distribution of this document is unlimited.

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

This version:

<http://www.ebxml.org/specs/ebGLOSS.pdf>

Latest version:

<http://www.ebxml.org/specs/ebGLOSS.pdf>

2 ebXML Participants

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3 ebXML Group and Specification/Document Names

3.1 *Technical specifications*

[ebTA] ebXML Technical Architecture Specification

[ebBPSS] ebXML Business Process Specification Schema

[ebRIM] ebXML Registry Information Model

[ebRS] ebXML Registry Services Specification

[ebREQ] ebXML Requirements Specification

[ebCPP] ebXML Collaboration-Protocol Profile and Agreement Specification

[ebMS] ebXML Message Service Specification

3.2 *Technical reports*

[bpOVER] Business Process and Business Information Analysis Overview

[bpWS] Business Process Analysis Worksheets and Guidelines

[bpPATT] E-Commerce Patterns

[bpPROC] ebXML Catalog of Common Business Processes

[ccOVER] Core Component Overview

[ebCCD&A] Core Components Discovery and Analysis

[ebCNTXT] Context and Re-Usability of Core Components

[ccCTLG] Guide to the Core Components Dictionary

[ebCCNAM] Naming Convention for Core Components

[ebCCDOC] Document Assembly and Context Rules

[ccDRIV] Catalogue of Context Drivers

[ccDICT] Core Component Dictionary

[ccSTRUCT] Core Component Structure

[secRISK] Technical Architecture Risk Assessment

3.3 *Reference materials*

[ebGLOSS] ebXML Glossary

4 Glossary

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
ABSTRACT CLASS		A class that cannot be directly instantiated.	UML Glossary V1.3	Contrast: concrete class.
ABSTRACTION		The essential characteristics of an entity that distinguish it from all other kinds of entities.	UML Glossary V1.3	An abstraction defines a boundary relative to the perspective of the viewer.
ACTIVE CLASS		A class whose instances are active objects.	UML Glossary V1.3	
ACTOR		Someone or something, outside the system or business that interacts with the system or business.	Rational Unified Process	
AGGREGATE [CLASS]		A class that represents the “whole” in an aggregation (whole-part) relationship.	UML Glossary V1.3	
AGGREGATE CORE COMPONENT		Defines a functional unit representation form that contains embedded information entities	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
AGGREGATION		A special form of association that specifies a whole-part relationship between the aggregate (whole) and a component part.	UML Glossary V1.3	
AGREEMENT		An arrangement between two partner types that specifies in advance the conditions under which they will trade (terms of shipment, terms of payment, collaboration protocols, etc.) An agreement does not imply specific economic commitments.	BP team Terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
APPLICATION		An Application is software that may implement a Service by processing one or more of the Messages in the Document Exchanges associated with the Service.	ebXML Glossary	
ARCHITECTURE		The architecture of a software system (at a given point in time) is its organization or structure of significant components interacting through interfaces	Rational Unified Process	
AUTHORISATION		A right or a permission that is granted to a system entity to access a system resource.	IETF RFC 2828	
AUTHORISATION PROCESS		A procedure for granting authorisation	IETF RFC 2828	
BUSINESS ENTITY		Something that is accessed, inspected, manipulated, produced, and worked on in the business.	UMM	
BASIC INFORMATION ENTITY		Defines a component which contains data but which does not have embedded information entities.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
BEHAVIOUR		The observable effects of an operation or event, including its results.	UML Glossary V1.3	
BUSINESS		A series of processes, each having a clearly understood purpose, involving more than one organization, realized through the exchange of information and directed towards some mutually agreed upon goal, extending over a period of time.	(Open-edi Reference Model Standard - ISO/IEC 14662). (MoU)	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
BUSINESS LIBRARY		A repository of business process specifications and business information objects within an industry, and of common business process specifications and common business information objects that are shared by multiple industries.	TA Specification Terminology	
BUSINESS ACTIVITY		A business activity is used to represent the state of the business process of one of the partners.	BP Team Terminology	For instance the requester is either in the state of sending the request, in the state of waiting for the response, or in the state of receiving.
BUSINESS COLLABORATION		An activity conducted between two or more parties for the purpose of achieving a specified outcome.	TA Specification Terminology	
BUSINESS COLLABORATION KNOWLEDGE		The knowledge involved in a collaboration	TA Specification Terminology	
BUSINESS CONTEXT		Defines a context in which a business has chosen to employ an information entity	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
BUSINESS DOCUMENT		The set of information components that are interchanged as part of a business activity.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
BUSINESS ENTITY		Something that is accessed, inspected, manipulated, produced, and worked on in the business.	UMM	
BUSINESS INFORMATION GROUP		A set of basic and/or aggregate information entities that convey a single business function.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
BUSINESS OPERATIONAL VIEW (BOV)	BOV	A perspective of business transactions limited to those aspects regarding the making of business decisions and commitments among organisations, which are needed for the description of a business transaction.	TA Specification Terminology	
BUSINESS PARTNER		An entity that engages in business transactions with another business partner(s).		
BUSINESS PROCESS		The means by which one or more activities are accomplished in operating business practices.	UMM	
BUSINESS PROCESS INTERFACE		The definition of how to interact with one partner role in order to make partner perform a desired service.	BP Team Terminology	
BUSINESS PROCESS SPECIFICATION SCHEMA		Defines the necessary set of elements to specify run-time aspects and configuration parameters to drive the partners' systems used in the collaboration.	BP Team Terminology	The goal of the BP Specification Schema is to provide the bridge between the eBusiness process modelling and specification of eBusiness software components.
BUSINESS PROFILE		Describes a company's ebXML capabilities and constraints, as well as its supported business scenarios.		
BUSINESS RULE		Rules, regulations and practices for business.	UMM	
BUSINESS SERVICE INTERFACE		An ebXML collaboration that is conducted by two or more parties each using a human or automated business service that interprets the documents and document envelopes transmitted and decides how to (or whether to) respond.	BP Team Terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
BUSINESS TRANSACTION		A business transaction is a logical unit of business conducted by two or more parties that generates a computable success or failure state.	BP Team Terminology	The community, the partners, and the process, are all in a definable, and self-reliant state prior to the business transaction, and in a new definable, and self-reliant state after the business transaction. In other words if you are still 'waiting' for your business partner's response or reaction, the business transaction has not completed.
CHOREOGRAPHY		A declaration of the activities within collaboration and the sequencing rules and dependencies between these activities.		
CLASS		A description of a set of objects that share the same attributes, operations, methods, relationships, and semantics.	Rational Unified Process	
CLASS DIAGRAM		A graphical representation that shows static structure of concepts, types, and classes.	UML Glossary V1.3	Concepts show how users think about the world; types show interfaces of software components; classes show implementation of software components.
CODE		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.	ebXML CC Dictionary Naming Conventions	Codes usually are maintained in code lists per attribute type (e.g. colour).
COLLABORATION		Describes a pattern of interaction among objects; it shows the objects participating in the interaction by their links to each other and the messages they send to each other.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	
COLLABORATION DIAGRAM		A graphical representation of collaboration.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
COLLABORATION PROTOCOL		The protocol that defines for a Collaborative Process:	CPA Specification Terminology	1. The sequence, dependencies and semantics of the Documents that are exchanged between Parties in order to carry out that Collaborative Process, and 2. The Messaging Capabilities used when sending documents between those Parties. Note that a Collaborative Process may have more than one Collaboration Protocol by which it may be implemented.
COLLABORATION PROTOCOL AGREEMENT	CPA	Information agreed between two (or more) Parties that identifies or describes the specific Collaboration Protocol that they have agreed to use.	CPA Specification Terminology	A CPA indicates what the involved Parties “will” do when carrying out a Collaborative Process. A CPA must be representable by a Document
COLLABORATION PROTOCOL PROFILE	CPP	Information about a Party that can be used to describe one or more Collaborative Processes and associated Collaborative Protocols that the Party supports.	CPA Specification Terminology	A CPP indicates what a Party “can” do in order to carry out a Collaborative Process. A CPP must be representable by a Document. While logically, a CPP is a single document, in practice, the CPP may be a set of linked documents that express various aspects of the capabilities. A CPP is not an agreement. It represents the capabilities of a Party.
COLLABORATIVE PROCESS		A shared process by which two Parties work together in order to carry out a process.	CPA Specification Terminology	The Collaborative Process may be defined by an ebXML Collaboration Model.
COMMITMENT		An obligation to perform an economic event (that is, transfer ownership of a specified quantity of a specified economic resource type) at some future point in time. Order line items are examples of commitments.	BP Team Terminology	
COMMON BUSINESS LIBRARY	CBL			

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
COMMON BUSINESS PROCESS		A business process that is used with reasonable frequency in a business community.	BP Team Terminology	For electronic business-to-business commerce, we are interested in business processes that manifest themselves in an exchange (one way, two way, or n-way) of information in electronic format between parties. Typically, Common Business Processes are defined by standards bodies or business communities that are generally perceived as defining defacto standards for business processes within their domain of specialization. A business process that is not defined as common by a standards body or is only used by a small business community is not a Common Business Process. The phrase "exchange of information in electronic format" includes XML messaging, EDI messaging, file transfers, and other forms of electronic data exchange. This could include facsimile, email, and phone conversations. However, it is probably important that any business process that contains a facsimile or phone conversation component also include at least one electronic message, file transfer, or the like.
COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL ENVELOPE		The outermost envelope of an ebXML Message.	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	For example: HTTP or SMTP.
CONCRETE CLASS		A class that can be directly instantiated.	UML Glossary V1.3	
CONFORMANCE		Fulfilment of a product, process or service of all requirements specified; adherence of an implementation to the requirements of one or more specific standards or technical specifications.	ISO Guide 2	
CONSTRAINT		A condition or a restriction.	UMM	
CONTROLLING AGENCY		Agency responsible for controlling the content of a basic information entity	CC/ Core Component Terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
CORE COMPONENT		Generic term that covers Core Component Type, Aggregate Information Entity and Basic Information Entity.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
CORE COMPONENT TYPE		Any Core Component that has no business meaning on its own. When they are reused in a business context, Core Component Types become Basic Information Entities.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	For example, quantity has no business meaning, but quantity shipped does.
CORE LIBRARY		Contains data and process definitions, including relationships and cross references, as expressed in business terminology that may be tied to accepted industry classification scheme or taxonomy.		
DATA TYPE		A type of data to be used to represent the content of an information entity.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	This can be specified in XML Schema or ISO 8601.
DIGITAL SIGNATURE		A digital code that can be attached to an electronically transmitted message that uniquely identifies the sender	Digital Signature Scheme ISO 9796	
DISTRIBUTED REGISTRY		Federation of multiple registries that behaves logically as one registry.	TA Specification Terminology	
DOCUMENT TYPE DEFINITION	DTD	Allows different instances of documents of the same type to be automatically processed in a uniform way.	XMI Glossary: OMG	
DOMAIN		A district or area under someone's control, range of influence.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
ebXML INFRASTRUCTURE		The full compliment of technical specifications encompassed within the ebXML framework.	Technical Architecture terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
ECONOMIC CONTRACT		A subtype of agreement between partner types that some actual economic exchanges will occur in the future.	BP Team Terminology	Contracts can have recursive relationships with other contracts, for example, yearly contracts with monthly releases and weekly or daily shipping schedules. Contracts are containers for collections of commitments. For example, a purchase order is a contract wherein the line items are commitments.
ECONOMIC EVENT		The transfer of control of an economic resource from one party to another party.	BP Team Terminology	
ECONOMIC RESOURCE		A quantity of something of value that is under the control of an enterprise.	BP Team Terminology	
ECONOMIC RESOURCE TYPE		An economic resource type is the abstract classification or definition of an economic resource.	BP Team Terminology	For example, in an ERP system, ItemMaster or ProductMaster would represent the Economic Resource Type that abstractly defines an Inventory item or product. Forms of payment are also defined by economic resource types, e.g. currency
EDIFACT WORKING GROUP	UN/EWG	To develop and maintain UN/EDIFACT, support of harmonised implementations and the use of multi-lingual terminology.	UN/EWG	
ELECTRONIC BUSINESS	eBusiness	A generic term covering information definition and exchange requirements within and between enterprises by electronic means	(MoU)	
electronic business XML	ebXML			
ELECTRONIC COMMERCE		Electronic Commerce is doing business electronically. This includes the sharing of standardised unstructured or structured business information by any electronic means.	UN/CEFACT SIMAC	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE	EDI	The automated exchange of any predefined and structured data for business among information systems of two or more organizations.	(Open-edi Reference Model Standard - ISO/IEC 14662). (MoU)	
ELEMENT		An atomic constituent of a model.	UML Glossary V1.3	
ENCRYPTION		Cryptographic transformation of data (called "plaintext") into a form (called "ciphertext") that conceals the data's original meaning to prevent it from being known or used.	IETF RFC 2828	If the transformation is reversible, the corresponding reversal process is called "decryption", which is a transformation that restores encrypted data to its original state.
EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE	XML	XML is designed to enable the exchange of information (data) between different applications and data sources on the World Wide Web and has been standardized by the W3C.	UN/CEFACT SIMAC	
FUNCTIONAL SERVICES VIEW	FSV	A perspective of business transactions limited to those information technology interoperability aspects of IT systems needed to support the execution of open-edi transactions.	Open-edi Reference Model, ISO/IEC 14662	
FUNCTIONAL SET		A set of alternative representations for the same semantic concept.	CC/ Core Component Terminology	
IMPLEMENTATION		An implementation is the realization of a specification.	NIST	It can be a software product, system or program.
INHERITANCE		The mechanism by which more specific elements incorporate structure and behaviour of more general elements related by behaviour.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	
INSTANCE		An entity to which a set of operations can be applied and which has a state that stores the effects of the operations.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
INTERACTION DIAGRAM		Shows how several objects collaborate in single use case.	UML Glossary V1.3	
MESSAGE ENVELOPE		A communication independent envelope, specifically MIME multipart/related, which contains the two main parts of an ebXML compliant message (the Header and Payload containers).	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	
MESSAGE HEADER		A specification of the structure and composition of the information necessary for an ebXML Messaging Service to successfully generate or process and ebXML compliant message.	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	
MESSAGING CAPABILITIES		The set of capabilities that support exchange of Documents between Parties.	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	Examples are the communication protocol and its parameters, security definitions, and general properties of ending and receiving messages.
MESSAGING SERVICE		A framework that enables interoperable, secure and reliable exchange of Messages between Trading Partners.	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	
MESSAGING SERVICE LAYER		Enforces the "rules of engagement" as defined by two Trading Partners in a Collaboration Protocol Agreement (including, but not limited to security and Business Process functions related to Message delivery).	TA Specification Terminology	
METHOD		The detailed, logically ordered plans or procedures followed to accomplish a task or attain a goal.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	
OPEN-EDI		Electronic data interchange among multiple autonomous organizations to accomplish an explicit shared business goal.	(MoU) Check reference.	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
PACKAGE		A general-purpose mechanism for organizing elements into groups.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	Packages may be nested within other packages.
PACKAGE DIAGRAM		Shows groups of classes and dependencies among them.	UML Glossary V1.3	
PARTY		A Party is an entity such as a company, department, organisation or individual that can generate, send, receive or relay Documents.	CPP & CPA Specification Terminology	
PARTY DISCOVERY PROCESS		A Collaborative Process by which one Party can discover CPP information about other Parties.	CPA Specification Terminology	
PAYLOAD		A section of data/information that is not part of the ebXML wrapping.	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	
PAYLOAD CONTAINER		An optional container used to envelope the real payload of an ebXML message.	Messaging Service Specification Terminology	If a payload is present, the payload container must consist of a MIME header portion (the ebXML Payload Envelope) and a content portion (the payload itself).
PAYLOAD ENVELOPE		The specific MIME headers that are associated with a MIME part.	Messaging Service Specification	
REGISTRY		A mechanism whereby relevant repository items and metadata about them can be registered such that a pointer to their location, and all their metadata, can be retrieved as a result of a query.	TA Specification Terminology	
REGISTRY AUTHORITY		A super user who maintains registry.	Defined in ISO11179	
REGISTRY CLIENTS		An ebXML application that makes use of services offered by a Registry using the messaging services.	TA Specification Terminology	For example: the ebXML Registry and the ebXML messaging services

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
REGISTRY ENTRY		Metadata that catalogs registry item.		Cannot find source of term or definition
REGISTRY INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDER		An entity which provides a registry/ repository to store profiles, CPPs etc.		Cannot find source of term or definition
REGISTRY INTERFACE		A set of Registry Services that provide access to Registry content to clients of the Registry is defined in the ebXML Registry Services Specification.	TA Specification Terminology	
REGISTRY ITEM		The content registered in a repository.	TA Specification Terminology	
REGISTRY SERVICE		A way of providing access to Registry content to clients of the Registry.	ebXML Registry Services Specification 222	
REPOSITORY		A location or set of distributed locations where Repository Items, pointed at by the registry, reside and from which they can be retrieved.	TA Specification Terminology	
REPRESENTATION TYPE		Type of data to be used to represent the content of an information entity	CC/ Core Component Terminology	From ISO 11179
ROLE		The named specific behaviour of an entity participating in a particular context.	UML Glossary V1.3	A role may be static (e.g., an association end) or dynamic (e.g., a collaboration role).
SCENARIO		A formal specification of a class of business activities having the same business goal.	(ISO 19735 part I)	
SECURITY MODEL		A schematic description of a set of entities and relationships by which a specified set of security services are provided by or within a system.	IETF RFC 2828	

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
SECURITY POLICY		A set of rules and practices that specify or regulate how a system or organization provides security services to protect sensitive and critical system resources.	IETF RFC 2828	
SEQUENCE DIAGRAM		A diagram that shows object interactions arranged in time sequence.	Rational Unified Process Terminology	In particular, it shows the objects participating in the interaction and the sequence of messages exchanged.
SIMPLE ELECTRONIC BUSINESS (SEB)	SEB	Simple Electronic Business is the application of simplified business processes, using core application data, and new and existing standardised techniques that support paperless and efficient operations.	UN/CEFACT SIMAC	
SIMPL-EDI		Subsets of UN/EDIFACT messages especially designed for SMEs. Simpl-EDI - Simple Electronic Business defines simplest processes and their required core data allowing the exchange of the minimum data to effect a business transaction electronically.	UN/CEFACT SIMAC	
SPECIFICATION SCHEMA		An additional view of a meta model.		
SUBMITTING ORGANISATION		Any organisation that submits a repository item to be registered in a repository.	OASIS	The Submitting Organisation will be the intellectual property owner of the repository item.
SUPPLY CHAIN		A sequence of events, which may include conversion, movement or placement, which adds value to goods, products, or services.	UN/CEFACT SIMAC	
UNIFIED MODELLING LANGUAGE (UML)	UML	A set of diagrams that communicate requirements regarding a business process.		

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION	SOURCE	COMMENTS ON DEFINITIONS
UNIQUE IDENTIFIER	UID	The abstract concept of utilizing a standard mechanism and process for assigning a sequence of alphanumeric codes to ebXML Registry items, including: Core Components, Aggregate Information Entities, and Business Processes		
UNIVERSALLY UNIQUE IDENTIFIER (UUID)	UUID	An identifier that is unique across both space and time, with respect to the space of all UUIDs.	DCE 1.1: Remote Procedure Call. Open Group Technical Standard. Document Number C706. The Open Group (Reading, UK: August, 1997).	A UUID can be used for multiple purposes, from tagging objects with an extremely short lifetime, to reliably identifying very persistent objects across a network.
USE CASE		Defines a sequence of actions a system performs that yields an observable result of value to a particular actor.	UML	It is used to structure the behavioural things in a model.
USE CASE MODEL		A model that describes a system's functional requirements in terms of use cases.	UML Glossary V1.3	
VULNERABILITY		A flaw or weakness in a system's design, implementation, or operation and management that could be exploited to violate the system's security policy.	IETF RFC 2828	
WORKFLOW		The sequence of activities performed in a business that produces a result of observable value to an individual actor.	Rational Unified Process	