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Liaison Statement from JTC1 SC32 to ITU-T SG4

2008-04-18

David J. Sidor
Chairman ITU-T SG4

SC32/WG1 nominates Paul Levine as liaison to ITU-T SG 4 in regard to the sharing of documents and the collaborative development of data specification methodology for electronic business data interchange. This liaison is to be established under the auspices of the MoU between IEC, ISO, ITU and UN/ECE Concerning Standardization in the Field of Electronic Business signed by the ITU on 24 March 2000.

The current effort in SC 32/WG 1 to draft ISO/IEC 15944-3, *Information Technology - Business Operational View Part 3: Open-edi Description Techniques*, proposes to provide a specification of an Open-edi description technique through reference to the UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology (UMM) for business process modeling and to the ITU-T External Terminology Schema (ETS) as a formal descriptive technique for specifying data definition for data interchange. Since the current UMM foundation module does not define any rules on how to build information entities, the ETS approach fills this gap by providing a well-defined methodology for specifying information entities. The ITU-T ETS approach for ordering is integrated with the UMM by treating the UMM Information Envelope and Information Entity as the Order and Message object classes of ITU-T Rec. M.1403, respectively. Also, the Authorized Role stereotype for Actor of UMM is treated as the Operator object class in Rec. M.1403. The second Committee Draft of ISO/IEC 15944-3 (attached) was circulated to SC 32 P-members on 6 February 2008 for a three-month period for review, vote (approval or disapproval) and comment.

The application of the ETS methodology as a protocol-neutral specification of data design for data interchange is acknowledged by ITU-T Study Group 4 and in the ISO/IEC 15944-3 draft as a work under study. The benefits of establishing a Category C liaison are to foster communication and collaboration in the further development of standards for defining data for business-to-business interchange.

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