1. It is recommended that celestial object designations follow the ***IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature*** which may be found at http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/Dic/iau-spec.htx.
   Note that object designations may present with or without a space between the catalog acronym and the catalog number. Applications should support importing object designations with or without a space.

2. It is recommended that catalog acronyms be taken from the ***Interactive Dictionary of Acronyms*** managed by the Centre de Données de Strasbourg which can be found at http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/Dic/how.html

3. Applications should treat catalog acronyms as equivalent regardless of case. That is, NGC is equivalent to ngc.

4. Session and site elements are optional but highly recommended.

5. Universal times are recommended.

6. If a session is set for an observation, the list of coObservers should not list the observation's observer again.

7. If a session is set for an observation, the start and end date/time of the observation should be within the session's start and end date/time. Applications may reject such an observation.

8. Session End dates/times should follow the session start date/time chronologically.

9. If a session is set for an observation, and that session contains a site, this site must be used for the observation as well. (Where the site XML element should be set in the XML structure of the session as well as in the XML structure of the observation itself, even though this might be redundant, it'll ensure that data can be read correctly in other OAL applications.)

10. The constellation used in the target type, should be filled with the nominative Latin name of one of the 88 constellations approved by the IAU, or with a three-letter abbreviation approved by IAU. (See http://www.iau.org/public_press/themes/constellations/).

11. If there is a specialized Finding for a target type available, the most specialized finding for a target type should be used. E.g. for observations of deepSkyDS the finding type

findingsDeepSkyDSType should be used. The same should hold true for targets. Used target types should be as specialized as possible.

12. Nonexistent objects should not be represented by a 'null' proxy object. For example, a naked-eye observation should not reference a 'null' telescope object.

13. Restrict opticsType/model to the single letters suggested in the comments for this element, e.g., A: Naked eye, B: Binoculars, N:Newtonian reflector, R:Refractor, etc.

14. XML parsers do not behave in a standardized way when evaluating the schema path portion of the xsi:schemaLocation attribute. Non-validating parsers may ignore the path entirely without error; validating parsers may require the path to be resolvable and correct. Note that the location may reside on your local file system. On Windows, this may be a URI encoded path such as file:///c:/Documents%20and%20Settings/All%20Users/Documents/Schema/oal20.xsd
OAL does not impose any rules on how you organize the file structure. This is completely up to you.

    A proven, reliable way is to ensure that the oal20.xsd root file is in the same directory as the XML file to be parsed. Obviously, the files included in oal20.xsd have to be located in the proper relative paths given in oal20.xsd.

15. The observationType/image element may be used to hold a file system path or a URL. A file system path is not portable across systems and may not be supported by other applications.