

# Contracts & the Semantic Web



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# Workgroup Deliverables

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- An XML namespace whose elements represent each of the ‘elements’ of a contract
  - this is an XML Schema document
- A ‘legal e-dictionary’, referenced by the attributes of elements in the namespace
  - this is an RDF Schema document
- A guide explaining how to use the XML elements, how to extend the dictionary, etc. and a description of conventions applicable to HTML/SVG entities
  - this is a text document



# Contracts & LegalXML

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**If a contract is authored . . .**

- **Using existing tools**

- a separate LegalXML stream describes the contract

- **Using LegalXML tools (formatted by CSS or XSL**

- a separate LegalXML entity can describe it

- **Using HTML/SVG tools**

- embedded LegalXML can describe it
- a separate LegalXML entity can describe it



# Operating Assumptions

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- **Contract authors must not be required to change from Word/WP/Adobe/etc.**
- **Implementation must be possible with today's W3C technologies, not tomorrow's**
- **Elements developed by the Horizontal, Signature, Transcript, and other WGs likely will be used by Contracts WG**



## Contract Namespace Components

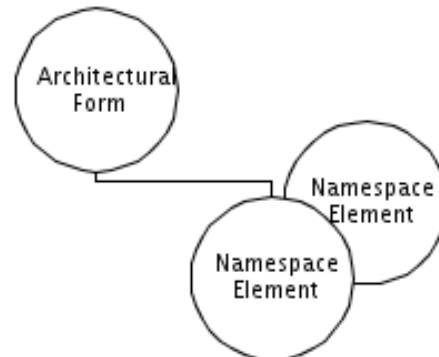
### **Legal Contract (XML Entity)**

```
<LegalXML>
  <Actors>
    <Actor id='Actor01'> <vCard fn.first='Jack'/> </Actor>
  </Actors>
  <Contract>
    <List name='RolesList'>
      <Role name='Party' actors='Actor01'/>
    </List>
    <List name='ClausesList'>
      <Clause name='IndemnificationClause'>
        <Text>This is a clause in the contract</Text>
      </Clause>
    </List>
  </Contract>
</LegalXML>
```

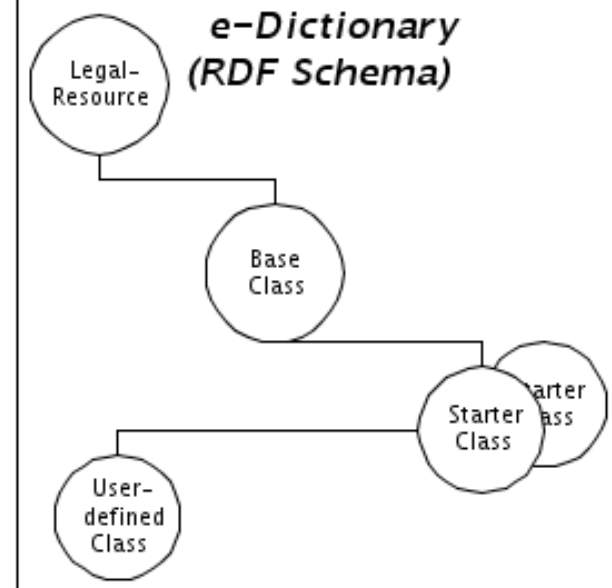
### **Legal XML Namespace Definition (XML Schema )**

### **Legal XML Court Filing Namespace Definition (XML Schema )**

### **Legal XML Contract Namespace Definition (XML Schema )**



### **e-Dictionary (RDF Schema)**





# Namespace Design Issues

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- Identify 'root' elements, provide a *name* attribute that points to an entry in a Glossary and/or a Dictionary for specializations of the element, i.e., its type.
- Persons, Places, Things, and Documents . . . and Lists
- Use of other namespaces (vCard, XLL) . . . and ANY
- RDF statements . . . attribute vs. resource elements  
... and <Location> and <Qualifier>  
... and RDF Schema properties and classes



# Citations

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- Legal XML needs to reference permanently formatted material
- No tools or accepted methods exist for generating this material
- Therefore, formatted material must be exchanged
- **<Presentation>**

Standoff markup about a presentation that

- . . . Points to a logical document (Legal XML) and or
- . . . Points to a formatted document (CSS, XSL, SVG) and or
- . . . Provides formatting instructions.

A <Page> element (and others) are likely necessary.



# Legal XML Dictionary

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- Elements' *controlled attributes* (e.g., *name*) map to object classes,
  - . . . directly (via an *rdf:type* attribute) or
  - . . . indirectly (via a **Term** element's *rdfs.Class* attribute)
- Proper class hierarchy is a key to its longevity
- Every WG has entries for the Dictionary