Draft v0.2 - Eduardo Pelegri-Llopart - Dec. 5, 2016

Executive Summary

This document contains a proposal to the Common Component Standards (CCS) Steering Committee to form a new project team whose goal it is to produce a *Specification* for **App Metadata** to define the **Metadata defining an Application comprised of Modules interacting with a Collection of Data Sources**. The Application can be realized through different technologies. Similarly, the Data Sources can have multiple origins. We envision multiple releases of the Specification, each backward compatible with earlier releases.

  The following sections of the document describe in general terms what the component is, the benefits it provides to application developers, and what the team's deliverables would be.

Component Description

Explain the purpose and architecture of the component.

The purpose of this specification is to describe the metadata that can be generated, modified and consumed by tools that operate on Applications interacting with Data Sources. The first version of the Specification will focus on the basic Application Structure and may leave some functionality unspecified. Later versions will be backward compatible with earlier versions and will define more portions of the Application.

A (meta-data) document following this Specification describes Data Sources and Application Modules interacting on these Data Sources. The Data Source section of a meta-data document can be used to validate that a given Data Source is producing and consuming content as expected by the Application. The Application Module section describe properties and events associated with the visual presentation of the application, interacting with the Data Sources.

Benefits and Use Cases

Explain the benefits and expected use cases for the component.

The Specification allows compliant tools from vendors to generate, modify and consume a description of an Application. This protects the investment from tool vendors and users of these tools. It also future-proofs this investment as the meta-data document can be used in the future with some new technology that was not available when the document was created.

The Specification has to balance completeness with stability and backwards compatibility. We envision the initial version of this specification to be incomplete, not defining portions of the meta-data that are deemed by the community to be "in-flux". Despite this incompleteness, the specification will be useful as it protects portions of the investment, and future versions will close the gap.

Related / Dependent Common Component Specifications

List all related and dependent specifications. Specifications can be submitted and worked on simultaneously.

None known. Some portions may overlap with a pre-CCS spec, the Data Service Catalog.

Project Team Requirements

List the expected timeframe and deliverables of the project team for this specification project.

We require a core group that will create the specification and a larger group that will provide feedback on the drafts. We also need participation from at least one tool vendor committed to this Specification and several groups that are actively using the tool(s).

We expect the core group to be active through multiple releases; its time commitment will vary over time.

The initial target for the first release is first half of 2017. The second release is likely to be in the second half of 2017.

The major deliverables of this specification:

1. Schemas for the Meta Data Document(s)
2. Specification describing the semantics for the different elements in the schemas:
   - Module
   - UI Screen
   - UI Component
   - App Navigation
   - Data Source