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## OASIS Liaison Report to ISO/IEC JTC1 Plenary

### September 2009

OASIS (the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards) respectfully submits this liaison report, to inform ISO/IEC JTC1 regarding its activities as a Publicly Available Specification (PAS) submitter and in other liaison relationships with JTC1.

### Background

OASIS is a not-for-profit consortium that drives the development, convergence and adoption of open standards for the global information society. OASIS is one of the oldest and largest consortia of its kind, producing a wide range of open structured data specifications for standardized business, governmental and transactional purposes. OASIS was created in 1993 to develop and promote standards for use of SGML (ISO 8879, now housed by JTC1/SC34) and its descendant, XML. OASIS work addresses a wide range of topics relevant to JTC1 and its subcommittees, including document formats, web services and service-oriented architecture, biometrics, security, access control, structured business content, and schema for electronic transactions in regulated industries.

OASIS originally applied for and was granted recognized PAS submitter status by JTC1 through 2007 by ballot in late 2004 (JTC1 N7617), and renewed in 2007 through 2010. OASIS is a strong proponent of global open standards collaboration, as a long-time signatory of the ISO-IEC-ITU Memorandum of Understanding on e-Business Standards [1], and participates in its coordination efforts through the MoU's Management Group. OASIS maintains active liaison and submission relationships with many global and regional *de jure* standards bodies in addition to JTC1. Successful OASIS Standards submitted to and approved by global *de jure* standards authorities include:

- ebXML v2.0 (e-business XML) (four related specifications), approved in 2004 as ISO TS 15000, parts 1-4.
- SAML v2.0 (Security Assertion Markup Language), approved in 2006 as ITU-T Rec. X.1141.
- XACML v2.0 (eXtensible Access Control Markup Language), approved in 2006 as ITU-T Rec. X.1142.
- OpenDocument v1.0 2d ed. (Open Document Format for Office Applications), transposed under the JTC1 PAS rules in 2006 as ISO/IEC IS 26300.
- CAP v1.1 (Common Altering Protocol for emergency warnings), approved in 2007 as ITU-T Rec. X.1303.

[1] MoU on e-Business: http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/e-business/mou/

#### Activities and Anticipated Progress during 2009

Maintenance Discussions with SC34. In 2008, OASIS and JTC1 representatives discussed methods for collaboration on future versions of approved transposed PAS submissions. These discussions led to constructive negotiation at JTC1's November 2008 plenary in Nara, Japan, and adoption by the plenary of an agreed JTC1 resolution asking OASIS and SC34 to further define "maintenance" procedures for the future collaborative management of OpenDocument Format (ODF), IS 26300.

Further discussions between OASIS and SC34 occurred in early 2009, benefiting from the constructive facilitation of SC34's chairman. As a result, OASIS and SC34 adopted a shared statement of the future path for work on IS 26300. Although this statement is consistent with the original PAS submission's explanatory report, and the applicable Directives, it better defines methods for exchanges and processing of errata and future versions, over the lifecycle of a transposed standard. SC34 acknowledged these methods in its recently-completed annual meeting; and although at this writing OASIS has not yet received the final SC34 resolutions, we understand that they are consistent with those shared plans. SC34 also has created a new working group to serve as the contact point for input into the ODF maintenance activities of the OASIS OpenDocument Technical Committee [2].

For its part, OASIS improved its procedures for receiving and tracking interim maintenance feedback on ODF, and revised its own liaison and submission rules [3] to clarify the obligations that will apply to future versions of approved submitted standards. OASIS and SC34 look forward to successful continued collaboration on ODF.

- [2] OASIS ODF TC: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/office
- [3] Liaison Policy: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/liaison\_policy.php#submitwork

**Future Versions of ODF.** The OASIS OpenDocument TC issued a version 1.1 of ODF, which has been approved as an OASIS Standard [4], and is working on a major revision as ODF v1.2, which it presently expects to complete in early 2010. The OASIS TC is exploring whether ODF v1.1 can be submitted to JTC1 as an amendment (under JTC1's rules) to IS 26300, in a relatively simple process within the next few months. Please see the next section of this report regarding 2010 plans for ODF v1.2.

[4] ODF v1.1: http://www.oasis-open.org/specs/#opendocumentv1.1

**Election Markup Language.** In May of 2008, OASIS submitted the Election Markup Language (EML) v5.0 to JTC1 under the PAS rules. EML v5.0, an OASIS Standard [5] with support from the Council of Europe and several production implementations in public ballot elections, defines a open standards set of transactional, counting and auditing messages for electronic ballot devices. However, the OASIS Election & Voter Services Technical Committee [6] decided in early 2009 to further revise the standard, and create a stable version 6.0 in late 2009 or early 2010. Accordingly, OASIS withdrew the EML v5.0 submission by a communication to JTC1's secretariat, and expects to submit EML v6.0 when the OASIS TC has completed it and asks us to do so.

[5] EML v5.0: <a href="http://www.oasis-open.org/specs/#eml5.0">http://www.oasis-open.org/specs/#eml5.0</a>

[6] OASIS E&VS TC: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/election

Unstructured Operation Markup Language. In June of 2009, OASIS submitted the Unstructured Operation Markup Language (UOML) v1.0 Part 1 to JTC1 under the PAS rules. UOML v1.0, an OASIS Standard [7], defines read, write and query operations for interaction with a "docbase" automated store of document information that can be dynamically composed and deployed. Further information on UOML can be found from the OASIS UOML-X Technical Committee [8] and OASIS' Explanatory Report accompanying its submission. OASIS looks forward to the initiation of a ballot and, if deemed desirable by JTC1, assignment of the submission to a JTC1 subcommittee for monitoring.

[7] UOML v1.0: http://www.oasis-open.org/specs/#uomlv1.0

[8] OASIS UOML-X TC: <a href="http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/uoml-x">http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/uoml-x</a>

#### **Anticipated Activities during 2010**

**Future Versions of ODF.** As noted above, the OASIS OpenDocument TC is expected to complete a new major revision of ODF v1.2 in early 2010. OASIS expects to submit the next version, ODF v1.2, as a PAS submission when it is completed next year. That version should take into account many helpful comments received from JTC1 members and SC34 experts.

**SOA and Web Services Standards.** OASIS notes with interest the maturation and rechartering of JTC1's activity originally housed in the Web Services Study Group. OASIS is the source organization for many of the mature, globally-implemented open standards that define web services and service-oriented architecture (SOA) functionality, including:

- service discovery (UDDI and registries)
- · reliable messaging specifications,
- · transactional process specifications, and
- SOA methodology specifications.

OASIS will continue to monitor and seek appropriate opportunities for collaboration and submissions with JTC1's service-oriented architecture and web services activities.

OASIS also anticipates making additional applications under JTC1's Approved RS Originator Organization (ARO) rules, defined in Appendix N7 of the JTC1 Directives, when requested. OASIS is asked to make these applications in support of various of its approved standards, particularly in web services implementations, when the OASIS standards are referenced and used in new JTC1 projects.

**Biometrics**. As reported to JTC1 earlier, the work of the OASIS Biometric Identity Assurance Services (BIAS) Integration Technical Committee [9] may also result in an OASIS Standard suitable for PAS submission. That TC's work is intended to integrate with the INCITS Subcommittee M1 work on biometric identity management and roles, providing web services transport methods for that latter project, and may also have application to the work of JTC1/SC37.

[9] OASIS BIAS Integration TC: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/bias

**PAS Status Renewal.** OASIS will apply for renewal of its PAS status, when due under the Directives, for balloting in early 2010.

**Revisions to the JTC1 Directives.** As a successful user of the PAS rules in widely-known applications, and a consortium with strong commitments to interoperability with *de jure* standardization, OASIS in interested in appropriate continuation, and definition, of the modes used by JTC1 uses for cooperation with consortia and industry. OASIS expects to continue to monitor, and give feedback as appropriate, to JTC1's review of its own operating methods, particularly but not exclusively in the area of outside submissions.

OASIS appreciates its successful working relationship with ISO/IEC JTC1, and its constituent members and experts, and looks forward happily to continued collaboration in the global open standards community.

Respectfully submitted,

James Bryce Clark General Counsel, OASIS