Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this TC is to maintain and develop the OpenDocumentFormat (ODF) to meet the changing needs of office software for an XML-based format for interchange.

The Open Document Format (ODF) and its revisions must meet the following requirements:

- 1. be suitable for office documents containing text, spreadsheets, charts, and graphical documents,
- 2. be compatible with the W3C Extensible Markup Language (XML) v1.0 and W3C Namespaces in XML v1.0 specifications,
- 3. be compatible, to the extent possible, with OOXML, ISO/IEC 29500, to promote seamless interchange between software systems,
- 4. re-use existing XML standards whenever possible and permitted.

Scope

OpenDocumentFormat (ODF) was adopted as an OASIS standard and submitted to ISO/IEC where it became ISO/IEC 26300. That standard forms the basis for the future development of OpenDocumentFormat.

In addition to maintenance of the existing committee specifications, the TC will specifically address:

1. Development of an interchangeable solution for change tracking,

Andreas – is there any interest in change tracking for spreadsheet? I'm assuming only direct data entry and not calculated changes are tracked.

2. Development of a lossless XML format that retains non-supported features, even when edited by software incapable of supporting some features.

The work of this TC in the second phase will additionally allow for the following areas:

- 1. enabling additional areas of application,
- 2. exploring new or experimental ideas for office document representation, and

Francis, you expressed interest here.

3. extending the expressiveness of the format.

The TC intends to submit completed and approved work to other

organizations in accordance with the OASIS Liaison Policy, and when doing so intends to continue responsibility for the maintenance of its specifications.

Svante, do you have suggestions here?

List of Deliverables

Each of the TC's phases will result in a Committee Specification that includes:

- * a set of XML schemas setting the vocabulary, constraints and semantics of the file format in question, and
- * a set of written specifications that describe the elements and attributes of the schemas in plain English.

Regina - should we commit ourselves to a schedule here?

I don't think any standards process moves quite the way Svante would like nor have I seen any implementors do the same. Check the last time patches were applied locally if you don't want to take my word for it.

Suggestions?