



The eBIZ Reference Architecture (RA)

The RA document is officially entitled the “Architecture Report for eBusiness harmonisation in Textile/Clothing and Footwear sectors” a technical reference designed to achieve eBusiness harmonisation in those sectors. It is available on the eBIZ project website www.ebiz-tcf.eu, and is currently in use both in leading European fashion groups and in SMEs.

Many, but not all, requirements for eBusiness in the Textile/Clothing and Footwear sectors for both the manufacturer-retail supply chains (downstream) and the manufacturer-supplier networks (upstream) are covered by means of specifications that include data models and communication protocols. The suitability was tested and revised following the feedback from 17 pilots (involving more than 150 companies ranging from suppliers to small retailers) running during the project. These embraced downstream and upstream processes in both sectors.

As the objective of the eBIZ-TCF project was to boost use of e-Business in the fashion industry notably by harmonising the efforts of past experiences and existing public standards rather than to develop a new solution, the RA describes a framework of existing specifications and initiatives. In fact, many of technical specifications are cross-referenced directly from their sources.

As the use of commonly agreed open standards is **key to achieving connectivity and interoperability between systems**, it takes into account the standardisation activities of organisations such as CEN/ISSS, OASIS and GS/1. The RA also recommends the use of protocols recognised by W3C, ISO and OASIS and its open approach supports many models such as ASP, P2P, Hub, etc.



At the business level, particularly those relating to some of the highly specialised manufacturing networks, many specifications have been adopted from those developed by various previous projects (listed below). In addition to drawing on the experiences of some of these projects, the specifications for downstream e-Business are based on the EDI technologies from the WWS Profile with business scenarios and data models created in the Universal Business Language (UBL).

Project	Sector	Supply Chain	Origin
TexWeave	Textile/Clothing	Up/Downstream	CEN/ISSS
TexSpin	Textile/Clothing	Upstream	CEN/ISSS
Moda-ML	Textile/Clothing	Upstream	FP6
eTexML	Textile/Clothing	Downstream	National, France
Visit	Textile/Clothing	Upstream	FP5
IPSA	Textile/Clothing	Upstream	Regional, Italy
EFNET	Footwear	Downstream	CEN/ISSS
SHOENET	Footwear	Upstream	FP6
CECMADESHOE	Footwear	Up/Downstream	FP6
SHOEBIZ	Footwear	Up/Downstream	SHOENET Development

More information:

Mauro Scalia, Project Manager, mauro.scalia@euratex.eu

To participate:

Jose Ignacio Aguado Alonso, CEN Secretariat, jaguado@aeon.es