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ebXML CC Dictionary Entry Naming Conventions

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ebXML Core Components

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1   Status of this Document

18
19   This document specifies an ebXML (DRAFT) for approval by the eBusiness community.
20
21   Distribution of this document is unlimited.
22
23   The document formatting is based on the Internet Society's Standard RFC format.
24
25   *This version:*
26   EbXML Naming conventions for Core Components and Business Processes Ver
27   1.01
28
29
30

31 ## 2   ebXML participants

32 We would like to recognize the following for their significant participation to the
33 development of this document.
34
35 Editing team: Mike Adcock, APACS
36   Sue Probert, Commerce One
37   James Whittle, e CentreUK
38   Gait Boxman, TIE
39   Thomas Becker, SAP
40
41 Team Leader: Hartmut Hermes, Siemens, Germany.
42
43 Contributors:
44   Andreas Schultz, GDV, Germany.
45   Henrik Reiche, Codan Insurance.
46
47
48
49

50 ## 3 Table of Contents

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69 # 4 Introduction

70 ## *4.1 Summary of Contents of Document*

71 This specification specifies the rules for naming ebXML Core Components and Business
72 Processes.
73
74 In addition to the naming convention rules that lead to a Dictionary Entry Name, the
75 document also provides rules for creating definitions. It also establishes the principle of
76 synonyms to cover the instances where a commonly used business term equates to a well-
77 formed Dictionary Entry Name according to the rules.
78
79 The keywords MUST, MUST NOT, REQUIRED, SHALL, SHALL NOT, SHOULD,
80 SHOULD NOT, RECOMMENDED, MAY, and OPTIONAL, when they appear in this
81 document, are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [Bra97].
82

83 ## *4.2 Audience*

84 The target audiences for this document include business domain experts and technical
85 experts.

86 ## *4.3   Related Documents*

87 These include ebXML Specifications on the following topics:
88 • ebXML Initial catalogue of core components Ver1.01
89 • ebXML Methodology for the Discovery and Analysis of Core Components Ver 1.01

90 # 5   Basic Information Entities – data element level

91 ## *5.1 Introduction*

92 These rules are derived from the guidelines and principles described in document ISO
93 11179-5, clause 6 (Guidelines for Structured Naming Conventions). In certain instances,
94 these guidelines have been adapted to the ebXML CC environment. In particular, the
95 guidelines have been extended to cover not only the naming of basic information entities
96 or data elements but also to cover the naming of aggregated information entities.
97
98 Each ebXML basic information entity is defined by a:
99
100 • **Dictionary Entry Name** (Mandatory). Name of the component as derived from
101   these naming convention rules. It consists of an *Object Class*, *Property Term and*
102   *Representation Type*
103
104 • **Definition** (Mandatory) The definition of a Dictionary Entry shall provide the real
105   business use of that entry. It shall use a structure which allows that entry to be easily

106 distinguished between the following; *Object Class*, the *Property Term*, and its
107 *Representation Type*.
108
109   **Note:** Rules for creating definitions are provided as Appendix I of this document**.**
110
111 • **Business term** (Optional). If the Dictionary Entry Name is different from the term
112 used in business, then this business term shall also be presented as synonym. There
113 may be several business terms or synonyms.
114
115   ▪ Dictionary Entry Name   e.g. Account Identifier; Purchase Order Identifier
116   ▪ Business Term   e.g. Account Number; Order Number, PO Number,

5.2 Naming Rules

118 **Rule 1:**   The Dictionary Entry Name shall be unique and shall consist of *Object*
119   *Class*, a *Property Term* and *Representation Type.*
120
121 **Rule 2:**   "The *Object Class* represents the logical data grouping (in a logical data
122   model) to which a data element belongs" (ISO11179). The *Object Class* is
123   the part of a core component's Dictionary Entry Name which represents an
124   activity or object in a context.
125
126 An *Object Class* may be individual or aggregated from core components. It may be
127 named by using more than one word.
128
129 **Rule 3:**   The *Property Term* shall represent the distinguishing characteristic of the
130   business entity. The *Property Term* shall occur naturally in the definition.
131
132 **Rule 4:**   The *Representation Type* shall describe the form of the set of valid values
133   for an information element. It shall be one of the terms specified in the
134   "list of *Representation Types*" as included in this document*.*
135
136 **Note**:   If the R*epresentation Type* of an entry is "code" there is often a need for an
137 additional entry for its textual representation. The *Object Class* and *Property Term* of
138 such entries shall be the same. Requesters for new entries may be aware of this fact.)
139
140 **Rule 5:**   A Dictionary Entry Name shall not contain consecutive redundant words.
141   If the *Property Term* uses the same word as the *Representation Type*, this
142   word shall be removed from the *Property Term* part of the Dictionary
143   Entry Name.
144
145 For example: If the *Object Class* is "goods" , the *Property Term* is "delivery date", and
146 *Representation Type* is "date", the Dictionary Entry Name is 'Goods. Delivery. Date'.
147
148 In adoption of this rule the *Property Term* "Identification" could be omitted if the
149 *Representation Type* is "Identifier".

150 For example: The identifier of a party ("Party. Identification. Identifier") will be
151 truncated to "Party. Identifier".
152
153 **Rule 6:**   One and only one *Property Term* is normally present in a Dictionary Entry
154   Name although there may be circumstances where no property term is
155   included. e.g. Currency Code
156
157 **Rule 7:**   **The *Representation Type* shall be present in a Dictionary Entry Name.**
158   **It must not be truncated.**
159
160 **Rule 8:**   **The *Representation Type* "text" shall be used in the context of names.**
161   **As names are used to identify objects the *Property Term* will be**
162   **"identification". Thus the Dictionary Entry Name of an object's name**
163   **is "Object. Identification. Text".**
164
165 **Rule 9:**   A Dictionary Entry Name and all its components shall be in singular form
166   unless the concept itself is plural e.g. goods.
167
168 **Rule 10:**   **An *Object Class* as well as a *Property Term* may be composed of one or**
169   **more words.**
170
171 **Rule 11:**   The components of a Dictionary Entry Name shall be separated by dots
172   and a following space character. The words in multi-word *Object Classes*
173   and multi-word *Property Terms* shall be separated by the space character.
174   Every word shall start with a capital letter.
175
176 **Rule 12:**   Special characters may only be used if required by language rules.
177
178 **Rule 13:**   Abbreviations, acronyms and initials shall not be used as part of a
179   Dictionary Entry Name, except where they are used in as business
180   terms/words e.g. UN, DUNS, EAN.
181
182 **Rule 14:**   All accepted acronyms and abbreviations shall be included in a ebXML
183   glossary. If an acronym or abbreviation shall be accepted for inclusion
184   within ebXML it shall be checked whether it is already mentioned in the
185   glossary or needs to be added.

186 ### *5.3 Language specific rules*
187 **Rule 15:**   **T**he dictionary content will be in English Language following Oxford
188   Dictionary English spellings. This assures unambiguous spelling and
189   interpretation.
190
191 **Rule 16:**   There may be restrictions in specific languages, which need to be applied
192   when transforming the ebXML Component Dictionary into other

193   languages. These restrictions may be formulated as additional rules and
194   added as separated language specific annexes to this document.
195

196   **6   List of Representation Types**

The following list contains the permissible *Representation Types* .

ebXML Definition	Representation Type
A number of monetary units specified in a currency where the unit of currency is explicit or implied.	**Amount**
A character string (letters, figures or symbols) that for brevity and / or language independency may be used to represent or replace a definitive value or text of an attribute. Codes usually are maintained in code lists per attribute type (e.g. colour).	**Code**
The indication of the repeat of an item or process.	**Count**
A day within a particular calendar year. Note: Reference ISO 8601.	**Date**
A particular point in the progression of time.	**DateAndTime**
A character string used to identify and distinguish uniquely, one instance of an object within an identification scheme from all other objects within the same scheme.	**Identifier**
A list of two, and only two, values which indicate a condition such as on/off; true/false etc. (synonym: "boolean")	**Indicator**
A numeric value determined by measuring an object. Measures are specified with a unit of measure. The applicable units of measure may be taken from UN/ECE Rec. 20	**Measure**
A rate expressed in hundredths between two values that have the same unit of measure.	**Percent**
A number of non-monetary units. It is associated with the indication of objects. Quantities need to be specified with a unit of measure.	**Quantity**
A quantity or amount measured with respect to another measured quantity or amount, or a fixed or appropriate charge, cost or value e.g. US Dollars per hour, US Dollars per EURO, kilometer per liter, etc.	**Rate**
A character string generally in the form of words of a language.	**Text**
The time within a (not specified) day. Reference ISO 8601:1988.	**Time**

197   **7   Naming of Aggregate Information Entities**

198
199   Each ebXML aggregate information entity is defined by a:

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200
201 • **Dictionary Entry Name** (Mandatory). Name of the component, created following
202   these naming convention rules. It consists of an *Object Class* and its *Property Term*.
203
204   Aggregates being reused in other aggregates shall use the *Property Term* "Details".
205
206   According Trade/CEFACT/1999/3 aggregates which are composed of core
207   components probably having different *Representation Types* can not own a
208   *Representation Type* themselves.
209
210 • **Definition** (Mandatory) The definition of an aggregate shall provide the real business
211   use. It shall use a structure which provides a clear distinction between the *Object*
212   *Class* and the *Property Term*.
213
214 • **Business term** (Optional). If the Dictionary Entry Name is different from the term
215   used in business, then this business term shall also be presented as a synonym. There
216   may be several business terms or synonyms.
217
218   ▪ Dictionary Entry Name   e.g. Consignment Cash-on-Delivery Amount. Details
219   ▪ Business Term   e.g. Consignment Cash-on-Delivery Amount
220
221 In all respects, other than the absence of Representation Type, the rules for Basic
222 Information Entities apply.

8 Appendix I - Rules for Components' Definitions

224 This is a collection of rules which have been agreed upon during the development of the
225 initial set of core components:
226
227 • To avoid the definition simply being a regurgitated version of the Dictionary Entry
228   Name, the definition should repeat the Dictionary Entry Name followed by "is" and
229   provide an understandable definition afterwards, which should also be translatable.
230
231 • One of the fundamental principles specified in IS0 11179, and supported by ebXML,
232   is that the definition should be developed first and the Dictionary Entry Name should
233   be extracted from it.
234

235

9 Disclaimer

237 The views and specification expressed in this document are those of the authors and are
238 not necessarily those of their employers. The authors and their employers specifically
239 disclaim responsibility for any problems arising from correct or incorrect implementation
240 or use of this design.

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241 **10 Contact Information**

242 Team Leader
243   Name   Hartmut Hermes
244   Company   Siemens AG
245   Street   Richard Strauss Strasse 76
246   city, state, zip/other 81679 Munich
247   Nation   Germany
248
249   Phone: (089) 92 21-4564
250   EMail: hartmut.hermes@mch11.siemens.de
251
252 Editor
253   Name   James Whittle
254   Company   e centre[UK]
255   Street   10, Maltravers Street
256   city, state, zip/other London
257   Nation   UK
258
259   Phone: +44-20-7655-9022
260   EMail: james.whittle@e-centre.org.uk
261

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265
266   To be defined