

Answers from the OASIS ebXML Joint Committee members:

Questions:

1. Which sector and/or group do you represent? (Healthcare, Business, ICT, Standardisation,.....)? Information & Communication Technologies, Healthcare, Business, Manufacturing, Software Development, Standardization, etc. The members of the ebXML Joint Committee represent their respective companies and organizations, but also represent the standards work of OASIS that was born from the original ebXML framework. The important point is that representation within ebXML technical committees spans across businesses, organizations, and government, covering business requirements for numerous domains.

2. What do you think can be the benefit of using ebXML for TC215 and or HL7? As OASIS Open efforts, there is an emphasis open standards irrespective of platform rather than tied to proprietary technology. The standards borne from ebXML framework provide a rich open-source community that allows a consortium such as HL7/ISO TC 215 to customize, own and shape their solutions for eBusiness, eGovernment or others. The core specifications have evolved and leverage, integrate and extend other emerging technology. The core elements also comprise the ISO 15000 parts 1-5 with two submissions anticipated:

- Collaboration Protocol Profile and Agreement
• Message Services
• Registry Information Model and Registry Services: New submission is anticipated.
• Core Components
• Business Processes: New submission is anticipated after ebBP v2.0.4 was approved 21 December 2006.

These provide clear reliable and proven standards for conducting electronic business in any domain.

3. Which parts of ebXML are of most interest for TC215? The ebMS (messaging) is usually considered as the baseline for eBusiness communication. The ebBP (business process and transactions), and CPPA (collaboration profiles/agreements) provide collaboration control and the ability to manage business participants.

In more advanced phases of a deployment, the registry and repository provide value for governance and management functions. Messaging and CPPA provide secure lightweight messaging using or leveraging web services infrastructure. Registry provides information management, records management and workflow, as well as providing semantics for registry objects. Core Components provide consistent methods for representing business semantics while Business Processes allows modeling or composition of simple to complex business interactions and business transactions between entities, such as care providers and accounting.

A real-world example of Interest and action in using these standards has been Middle East Technical University (METU). Either through the EU-funded RIDE or other projects, they have integrated use of these specifications to solve health-care business requirements related to the Integrated Health Enterprise (IHE). One example is handling of semantic metadata. More examples are detailed in the following response to Question 4.

4. Which areas of the healthcare domain can use ebXML as it is (Patient records, reimbursement,.....)? Many of the healthcare domains can use our standards now to provide eBusiness related care management and accounting transactions, including medical insurance reimbursement, emergency alerts, health care contracts for health care providers and suppliers. See National Health Services in UK, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, Artemis Project, the Norwegian e-Health Infrastructure Trygdeetaten Case Study, Navy Medical proposal and SAGE.

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5. Is there a need for TC215 to support the ebXML development process in common (not only Healthcare)?

One opportunity is to develop profiles and/or usage practices, with all parties involved, even if a pilot deployment will be restricted to one sector in a first phase. In addition, common requirements have been identified across business domains for eGovernment, financial services, and health care. Initial deployment templates have been developed for Messaging Services, CPPA, and ebBP (package of three), and Registry (technical template) while a user related one is under development.

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6. Organisational viewpoint: How can we work together in the future with ISO, OASIS, UN/Cefact and others for e-Business (New liaisons, participation in other groups, a new WG or task Force within TC215,)?

For getting requirements, a usual liaison channel between OASIS Technical Committees (TCs) and TC215 WG may be sufficient. It is also important to have well documented use cases to aid in deriving requirements and development. Our TCs also encourage user consortiums to develop their "deployment profiles" of ebXML (user-defined conventions above the standard, as well as deployment practices) which OASIS TCs can publish. Some tighter cooperation to help on this profiling may be needed. For example, see how RosettaNet created task forces involving experts from RosettaNet, OASIS, and companies, to conduct work outside the OASIS umbrella. The very recently created <http://ebxml.xml.org/> site from OASIS allows our users to create forums, blogs, etc. to facilitate collaboration and working together. We've also have ebxmlforum.net and other inputs such as <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ebxml> and the individual OASIS TC sites (see end note).¹

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7. If a new TC215 WG is proposed, what should be the main target of this group?

One thought is to have this WG develop use cases and profiles specific to the health care industry needs for the various ebXML modules or compositions thereof. We see such efforts already beginning to occur in the health care domain (see previous references).

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¹ Implementation, Interoperability and Conformance: [http://www.oasis-](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ebxml-iic)

[open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ebxml-iic](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ebxml-iic)

Messaging Services: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ebxml-msg

CPPA: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ebxml-cppa

ebBP: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ebxml-bp

Registry/Repository: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=regrep

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