

Dictionary Driven Exchange Content Assembly Blueprints

Concepts, Procedures and Techniques

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http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/cam

(CAM – Content Assembly Mechanism Specification)



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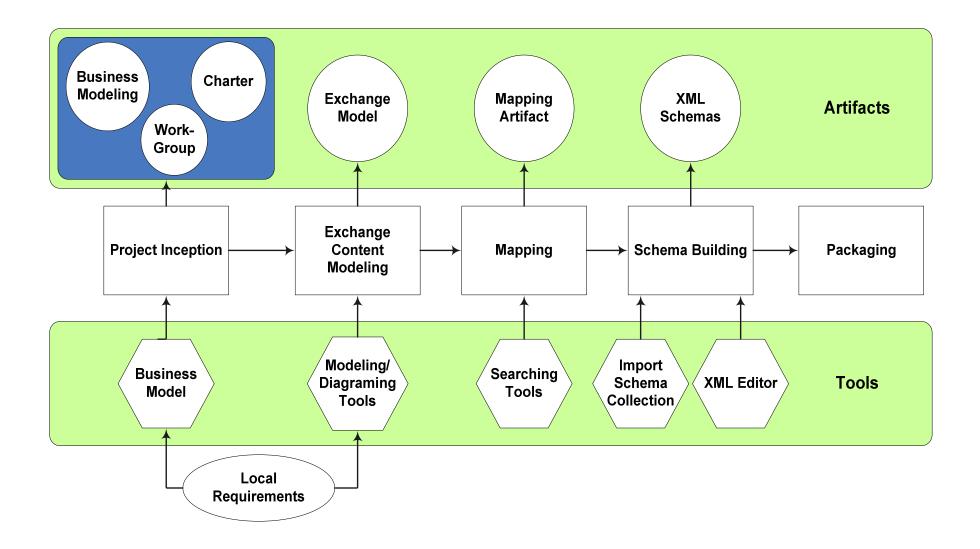
- Today's XSD Schema-based Exchanges
 - Current accepted practice pitfalls and challenges
 - How to do this faster, simpler, more reliably?
 - Accelerated process overview
- Blueprints and Dictionaries
 - Constructing your exchange with Blueprint templates
 - Leveraging re-use standard domain dictionaries
 - Creating your own domain dictionary from XSD or UML
- Generating Exchange Artifacts
 - NDR evaluation, Exchange schema, mapping crosswalk, XML instances, realistic data use, business rules documentation
- Summary

Today's XSD Schema-based Exchanges

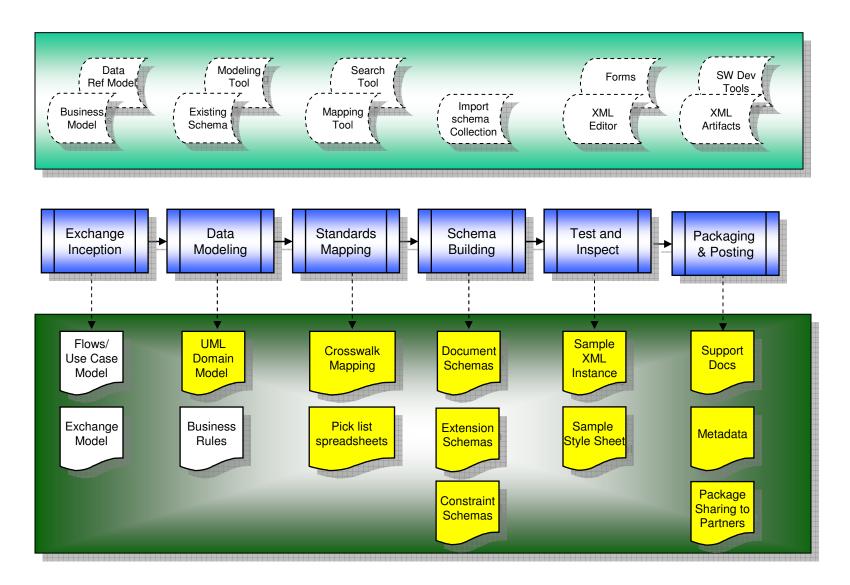
Current Practice – Pitfalls and Challenges How to do this faster, simpler, more reliably? Accelerated Process Overview



Current Practice – Conceptual



Current Practice - Mechanics





Current Practice – Team Matrix

FTE = full time equivalent

Skillset	Qualifications	Experience	Resource
Exchange practitioner / project lead	- Proficient in modelling methodology and exchange development requirements	Prior Information Exchange project work	1 FTE
W3C XSD schema expert	- Proficient in complex XSD syntax writing. Familiar with developer support tooling and constraints	One to two years actively writing XSD schema	1 FTE
Domain business analyst	- Familiar with project requirements and business applications and also developing XML based exchanges	One year or more in application area	1 FTE
UML/ data modelling practitioner	- Use of UML diagramming and models. Information modelling	Prior UML based modelling	1 FTE
SW dev tooling user	- Knowledge of SW tools available for target environment.	SW tools training and XML development	1 FTE
XML testing and development	- Creating test environments, working with XML test cases, test data generation	Data analysis and XML content creation	1 FTE
Documentation resources	- Writing documentation and spreadsheets	Technical writer	1 FTE



Pitfalls and Challenges

- Significant amount of manual labor needed to develop all the exchange documenting artifacts and XML related end products
- Multi-discipline team and supporting cast of exchange / XML savvy developers needed
- Disconnect between the software delivery teams' schedule and process and the exchange development team and process; production system not matching what the delivery doc says it does
- Alignment to existing domain Enterprise Data Model (EDM)
- Varying quality of hand checked results and no consistency of technical approach to schema development techniques and reuse of domain components
- Process not repeatable and predictable
- Scalability differing production XML details across teams, often incompatible across implementations and platforms



Delivery Level of Effort Estimates

Component	Tasks	Timings	Constraints
Collect exchange needs	Model information needs	Weeks	Spiral analysis
Perform XSD schema development with EDM alignment	XSD syntax writing	Weeks	Complex with steep learning curve and limited practitioners.
Documentation of each element	Excel spreadsheet	Weeks	Manual preparation and review
Document domain dictionary mapping (pick list)	Excel spreadsheet	2 to 5 days	Manual preparation and review
Create test cases and examples	Sets of XML instances	Weeks	Manual hand editing of XML from XSD
Perform interoperability testing	Build test environments	Weeks	Test harnesses vary
Create exchange documentation	Word documentation	Weeks	Manual preparation

Currently 800+ hour process for 300+ node exchange



Improving the Process

- Resolving the issues and challenges
- Ensuring consistent results that can be easily reviewed
- Leverage existing dictionary work and repositories of components that the enterprise already has
- Reduce the learning curve and need for specialized skills
- Business analysts not excluded from design, review and implementation by technical barriers
- Lock-step the development process to the exchange
- Customizable and configurable so can adapt to changing requirements

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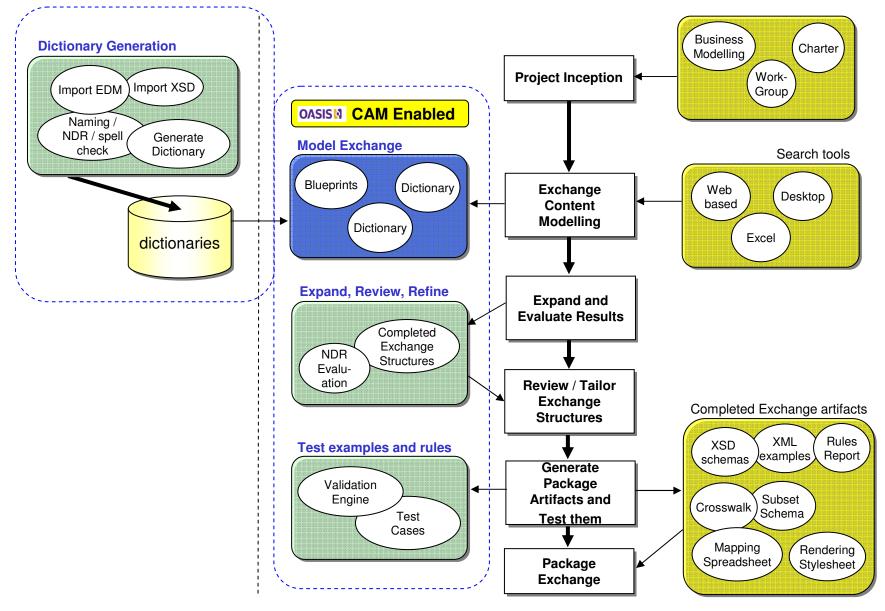
Faster, Simpler, Predictable

- Tooling automates much of the manual tasks; ensures predictable quality of results
- Reduce need for specialized technical knowledge of XSD and XML
- Provide consistent approach that leverages best-practice techniques with built-in smarts and knowledge
- Tooling checks for common pitfalls, applies NDR checks
- Allow business analyst to complete much of the design work and crosscheck application details
- Leverage reuse of domain component dictionaries and blueprints
- Lockstep development to exchange artifacts and their delivery
- Accelerate development tasks (test cases, testing, schema writing)
- Produce result that are neutral to developer tooling platforms
- Process repeatable and replicatable when requirements / versions change

Using Dictionaries & Blueprints

- **Dictionaries** provide reference sets of components to be used in exchanges; three possible sources:
 - Dictionaries imported from existing industry schema
 - Domain dictionary built from an Enterprise Data Model schema
 - Reverse engineered out from existing exchange schema
- Blueprint
 - Is the outline of the structure components to be used in an exchange schema
 - Can import components from one or more domain dictionary collections
 - Sketches out the desired information exchange with re-use of existing exchange component structures, plus any local additions / extensions / exclusions
- **Expander** tool reads the blueprint, references the dictionary, and constructs the complete exchange schema

Accelerated Process Overview



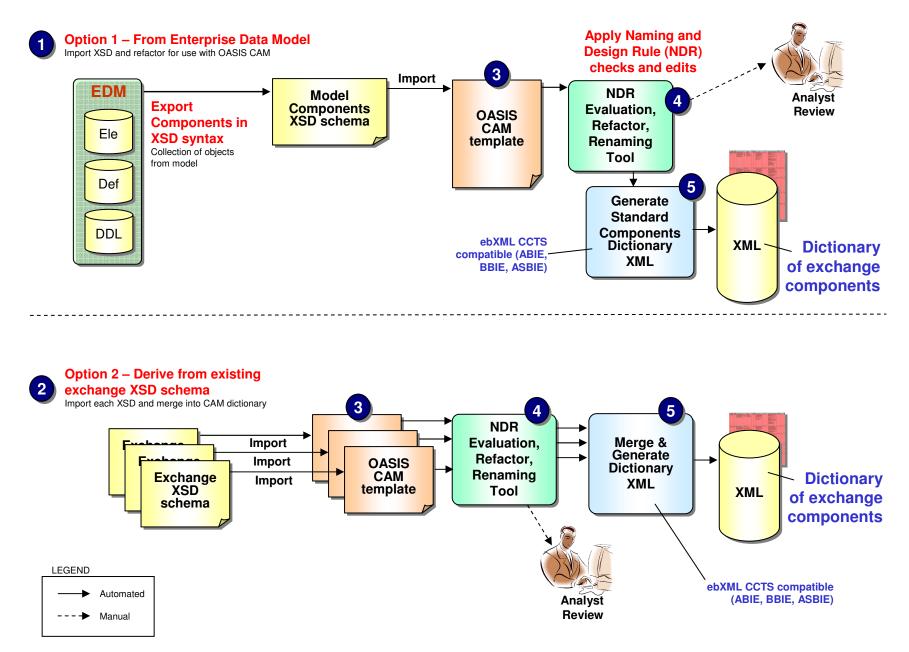


January, 2010 – CAM Draft Specification Development Related Materials

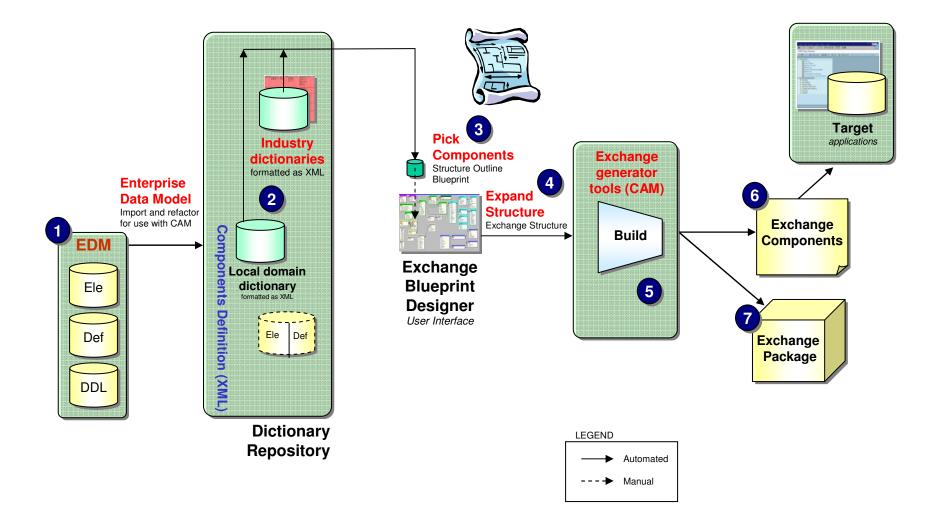
Blueprints and Dictionaries

Leveraging re-use – dictionaries from industry standards Creating your own domain dictionary from XSD or UML Constructing your exchange and blueprints

Building Domain Dictionaries

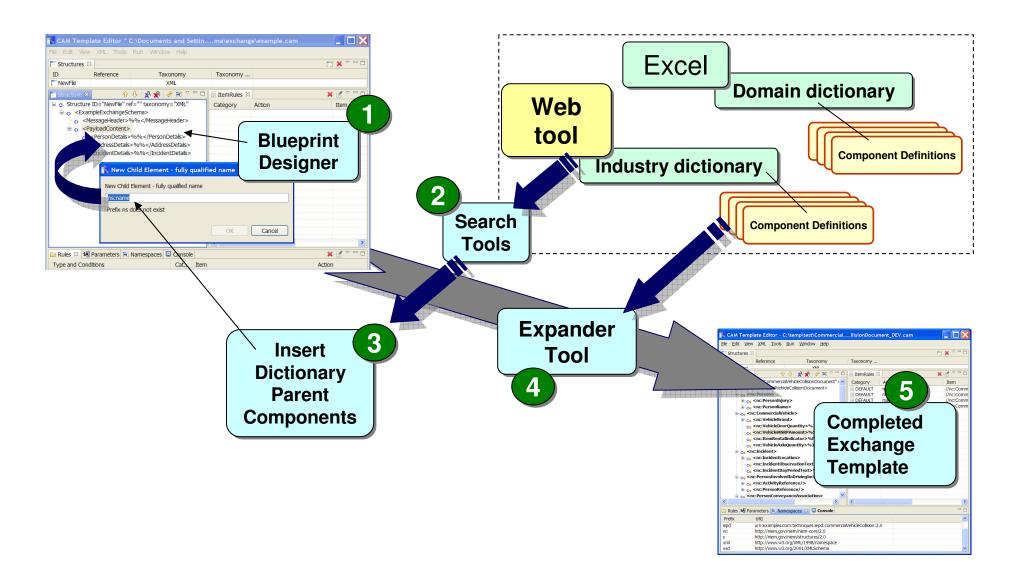


Blueprint Approach Overview



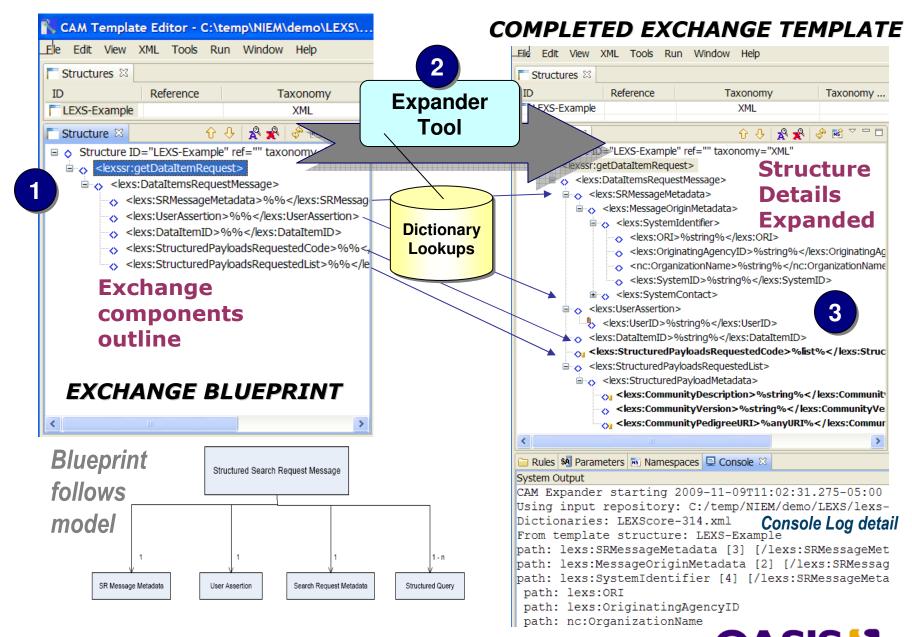


Blueprint Development Tools

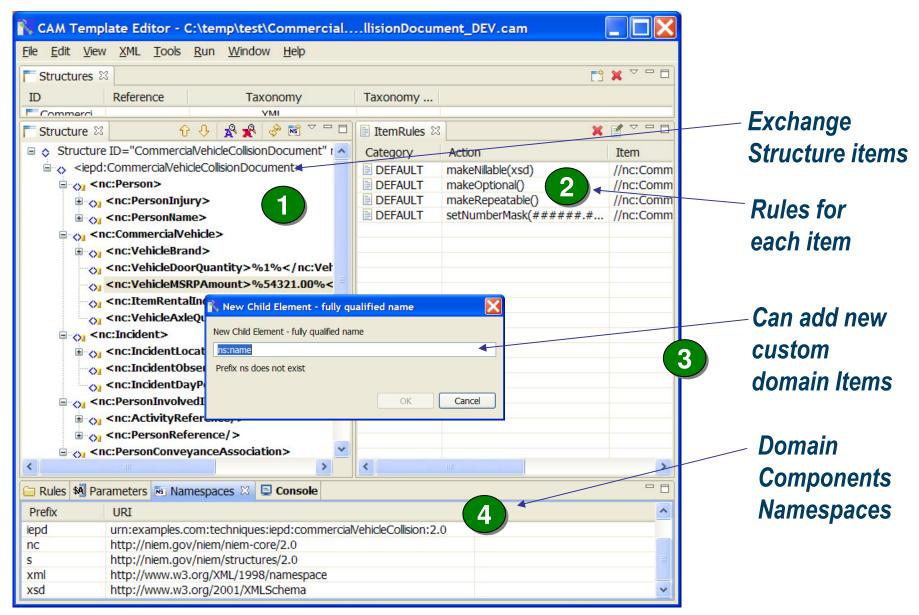




Blueprint Expander Example



Exchange Template Editor

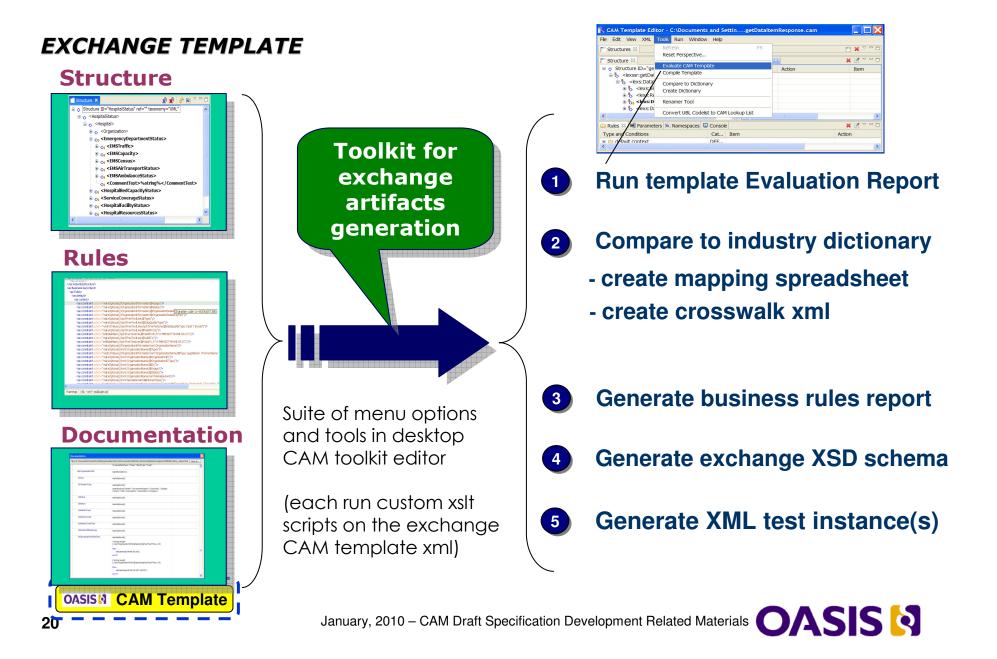




Generating Exchange Artifacts

NDR evaluation, crosswalk mapping, Exchange Schema, Subset schema, XML instances, business rules documentation

Exchange Generation Steps

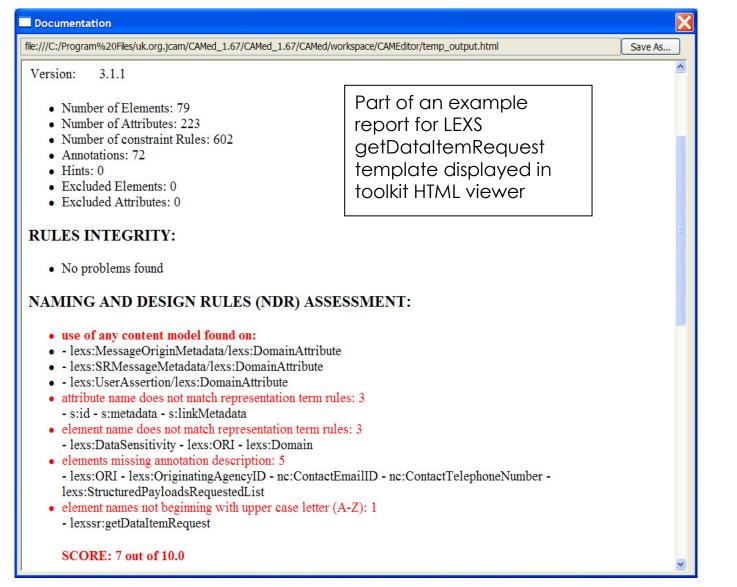


NDR Evaluation Report

- Provides scoring, alerts, warnings and potential issues including:
 - Naming and content model conventions
 - Naming and restriction consistency checks
 - Interoperability enablers/inhibitors checks
 - Rules integrity and duplicates
 - Statistics on exchange size
 - Spell checking on component names



Evaluation Report (NDR) example





Compare to industry dictionary

- References industry dictionary of names and properties
- Matches on physical names
- Reports mapping details
- Compatible with Microsoft Excel
- Report can be used to do spell checking
- Generates crosswalk xml file

Example cross-reference spreadsheet

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Formatted view in Microsoft Excel of import of crossreference report details (from generated XML file)

Generate Documentation and Schema

- Documentation:
 - Create HTML report of exchange schema details and associated content and business rules
 - Report layout and content designed to be reviewed by business analysts
- Schema:
 - Generate XSD schema for exchange
 - Customizable exchange folder layout management by namespace for extension, subset and exchange schema components
 - Writes XSD schema in syntax that is clear, simple and compatible with deployment tooling environments



Business Rules Documentation

Documentation		
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lexs:SRMessageMetadata	required item	Definition Metadata about Search/Retrieve message.
lexs:LEXSVersion	required item	Definition Specifies LEXS version used within the document, for example 3.1.1
@s:id	optional with data type of	"ID" Definition "ID" The id attribute is used to define XML IDs for NIEM objects. These IDs may be targets of reference elements, metadata attributes, and link metadata attributes.
@s:metadata	optional with data type of	"IDREFS" Definition The attribute metadata allows an object to point to metadata that affects itself.
@s:linkMetadata	optional with data type of	"IDREFS" Definition "IDREFS" The linkMetadata attribute allows an element to point to metadata that affects the relationship between the context and the value of the object.
lexs:MessageDateTime	if string-length(.) <26 Definition Date and time the message was created.

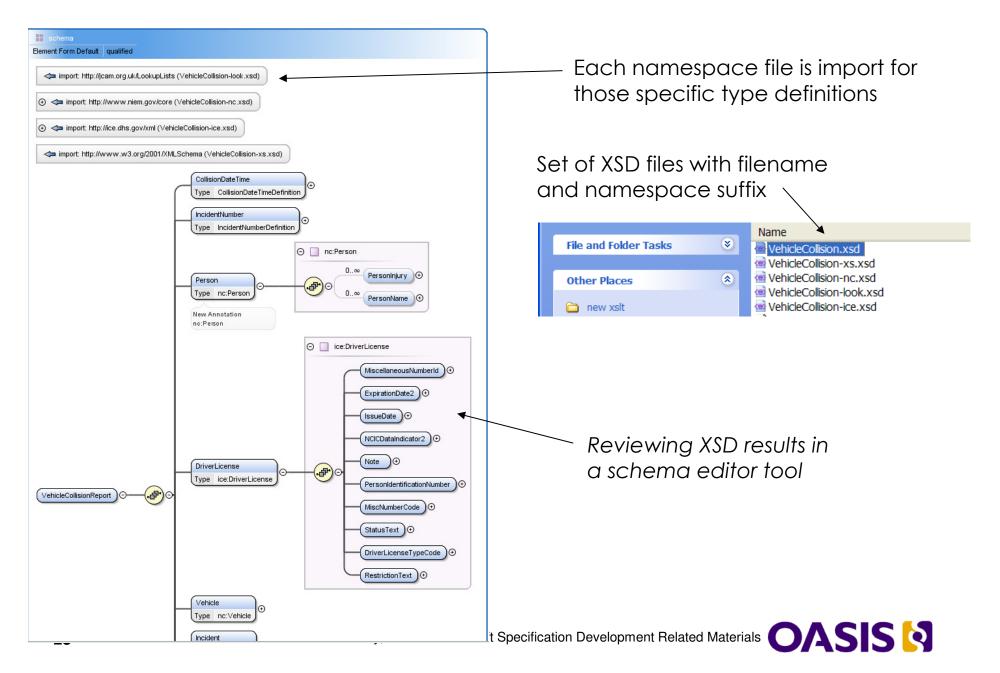


Export Exchange to XSD Schema

💦 CAM Templa	te Editor - (C:\Documents and S	ettinisionDocument_clean.cam	Export Template to
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January, 2010 - OAINI Drait Specification Development metated inaterials UASIS S

Exchange Schema Generated



XML Testing Examples Generation

- Support for software development testing process
- Designed to allow creation of concrete realistic examples not just random value based
- Hinting system allows insertion of actual test system values into XML examples
- Can create both valid and invalid examples to support unit testing of application software
- Exclude capability allows generator to create examples that contain only a portion of the entire exchange
- Control over random seed value used allows regeneration of identical test cases



XML example generation wizard

💦 CAM Template Editor - C:\Do	cuments and Settin	\getDataltemRequest.cam			
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Running validation rules tests

- Built-in CAM validation engine allows testing of XML instances against actual exchange rules (CAMV).
- Critical to ensure that the exchange validates actual live production example scenarios correctly
- Allows deployed solution to match exchange schema details
- Errors can be reviewed interactively in exchange visual interface
- Post-processing of validation results allows unit regression tests to be created with reporting of errors, warnings and information level notes



Run Exchange Template

Run CAMV From this wizard the CAMV Validation Engine can be run. Choose the XML file you require. If more than one structure exist choose the required structure.	Pick XML test case to validate Run validation Review results in visual editor
Run CAMV Template C:\Program Files\jcam.org.uktaItem-skeleton-expanded.cam XML File test-example-1.xm Structure ID LEXS-Example Run Time Options ODCUMENT Transform results	CAM Template Editor - C:\Program Files\jcam.om-skeleton-expanded.cam File Edit View XML Tools Run Window Help Structures S The Reference Taxonomy Structure S Structure S Structure S Structure ID="LEXS-Example" ref="" taxonomy "XML" Structure ID="LEXS-Example" ref="" taxonomy "XML" Structure ID="LEXS-Example" ref="" taxonomy = "XML" Category Action Item Structure ID="LEXS-Example" ref="" taxonomy = "XML" Category Action Structure ID="LEXS-Example" ref="" taxonomy = "XML" Structure ID="LEXS-Example" ref=" taxonomy = "XML"<
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Example Exchange Packaging Details

Package Artefact	Description			
Exchange Files				
Subset Schema	Subset of the full exchange schema—a reduced set of components only used in this exchange, not every possible component.			
Crosswalk XML	Itemized list of each dictionary component element and attribute included in the exchange.			
Exchange Schema	Base document schema that defines the full XML structure for the exchange and is generally named after the exchange itself.			
Constraint Schema	Optional schema that includes additional constraints and code values for the main exchange schema			
Extension Schema	Specification for extended components-separate local name-spaces of components not contained in dictionary			
Sample XML Instance	Example instance(s) – may reference optional stylesheet.			
Stylesheet	Example stylesheet for display of instance(s).			
Documentation				
Master Documentation	The Master Document is the main document for which all of the context and details around the exchange are explained. This document includes, the overview, as well as details surrounding the exchange, business drivers and requirements			
Exchange model	Exchange model in standard open format (xmi, vsd, zargo) and standard open graphic (jpg, pdf, etc.) preferably a Unified Modeling Language (UML) model.			
Business rules	Business rules in one of the following formats: (1) plain or structured English, (2) written into master documentation, (3) generated by a development tool.			
Mapping to Dictionary	Mapping of domain components, tagged with constraints (i.e., cardinality, etc.) to dictionary components as a spreadsheet.			
Extended components	Components created because they were not in dictionary—may be part of mapping spreadsheet and include structure and definitions of new components.			
Change log	Record of cumulative changes from previous exchange versions. The initial exchange simple records its creation date.			
Catalog				
Catalog XML file	A machine-readable list of artifacts provided in this exchange package.			
Metadata XML file	All metadata of owner and domain to be associated with the exchange.			



Summary

Dictionary driven exchanges **Blueprint enabled reuse** Automated exchange package generation Alignment to NDR Principles and Rules Testing and validation support



Review

Top Down development

- Reference dictionary components
- Create exchange blueprint
- Run Expander tool
- Refine desired structure in visual editor
- NDR Principles and Rules
 - Best practices for interoperability and schema techniques

• Dictionary driven reuse

- Enterprise Data Model and industry components
- Ensures consistency of definition and use
- Automated exchange package generation
 - Schemas, XML, documentation, mapping crosswalk
 - Test generated example XML with rules validation



Reference Materials

References and Links

Links and Resources

DOWNLOADS -

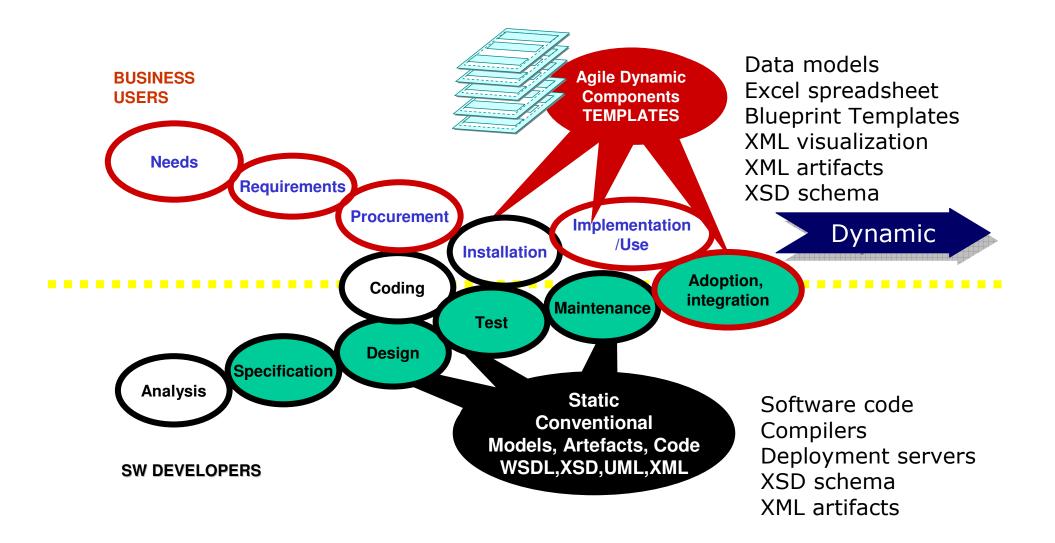
- CAM Toolkit download
 - <u>https://sourceforge.net/projects/camprocessor</u>

• SUPPORTING MATERIALS -

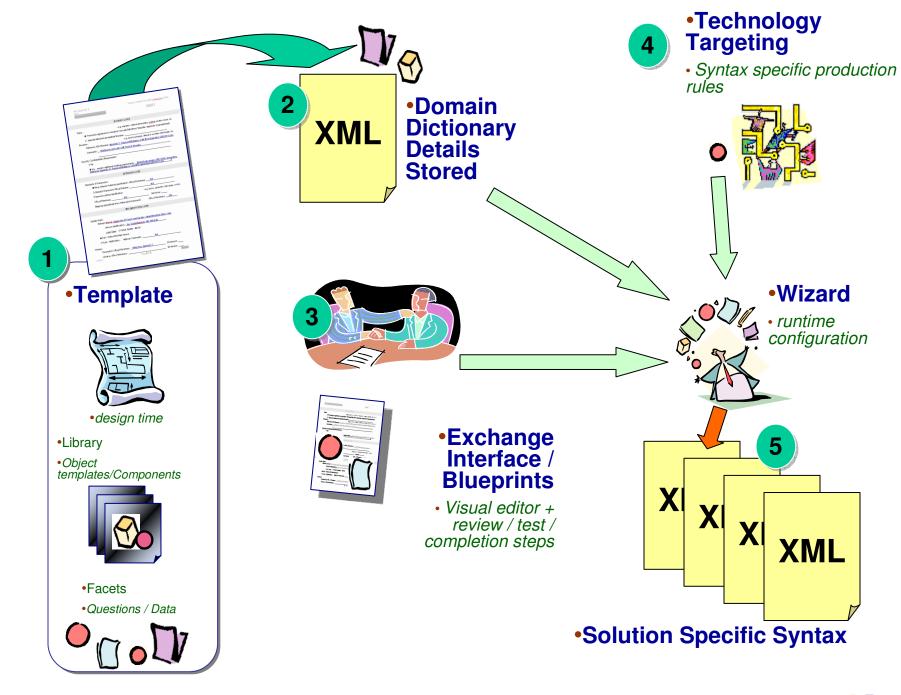
- NIEM Naming and Design Rules (NDR) 1.3
 - http://www.niem.gov/pdf/NIEM-NDR-1-3.pdf
- RESOURCES
 - Additional support slides (following)



Blueprint Driven Approach







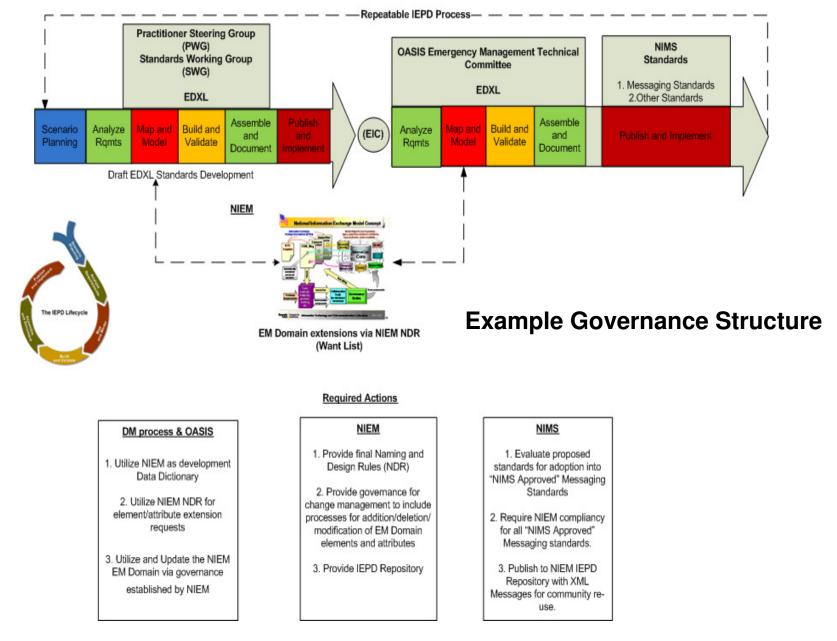


Domain Exchange Development Steps

- Adopt formal Naming and Design Rules (NDR)
 - UN/CEFACT NDR
 - OASIS UBL Universal Business Language
 - OASIS EML Election Markup Language
 - NIEM National Information Exchange Model approach (http://www.niem.gov)
 - OASIS EM Emergency Management joint initiative with NIEM •
- Develop data models of core components for use in exchanges ۲
- **Build Dictionary of Core Components** \bullet
- Provide Principles and Rules guidance to schema team
 - Use namespaces, Yes / No?
 - Camel case naming convention?
 - Schema constructs and restrictions on use?
- Information Exchange Package Documentation (IEPD) ۲
 - Describes formal exchange that conforms to NDR and principles and rules
 - Provides schema, example XML, supporting artifacts ۲
 - Re-uses core components ۲
 - Defines domain specific components



DHS Disaster Management (DM) - EDXL Standards Development Process (DRAFT)





OASIS Content Assembly Mechanism (CAM) & Integration Technologies Guide

