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ebXML Naming Convention for Core Components

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ebXML Core Components

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11   2 May, 2002

12   Version 1.03

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1 Status of this Document

20

21 This document specifies an ebXML (DRAFT) for approval by the eBusiness community.

22

23 Distribution of this document is unlimited.

24

25 The document formatting is based on the Internet Society's Standard RFC format.

26

27 ***This version:***

28   EbXML Convention: Naming of Core Components Ver 1.02

29

30 *Quality Review qualified statement:*

31 *This specification is one of several cornerstones for the overall Core Components*

32 *specifications. Whilst it may be considered for stand-alone use, its primary purpose is for*

33 *use within an ebXML environment. It has limited value as an independent document.*

34

35

36

37

2   ebXML participants

We would like to recognize the following for their significant participation to the development of this document.

Editing team:	Mike Adcock, APACS
	Sue Probert, Commerce One
	James Whittle, e CentreUK
	Gait Boxman, TIE
	Thomas Becker, SAP
Team Leader:	Hartmut Hermes, Siemens, Germany.
Contributors:	
	Andreas Schultz, GDV, Germany.
	Eddy Dermience, EDIFER, Belgium

57 **3 Table of Contents**

75

76 # 4 Introduction

77 ## *4.1 Summary of Contents of Document*

78 This specification specifies the rules for naming ebXML Core Components and Business
79 Processes.
80
81 In addition to the naming convention rules that lead to a Dictionary Entry Name, the
82 document also provides rules for creating definitions. It also establishes the principle of
83 synonyms to cover the instances where a commonly used business term equates to a well-
84 formed Dictionary Entry Name according to the rules.
85
86 The keywords MUST, MUST NOT, REQUIRED, SHALL, SHALL NOT, SHOULD,
87 SHOULD NOT, RECOMMENDED, MAY, and OPTIONAL, when they appear in this
88 document, are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [Bra97].
89

90 ## *4.2 Audience*

91 The target audiences for this document include business domain experts and technical
92 experts.

93 ## *4.3   Related Documents*

94 These include ebXML Specifications on the following topics:
95 • ebXML Initial catalogue of core components Ver1.03
96 • ebXML Methodology for the Discovery and Analysis of Core Components Ver 1.03

97 # 5   Basic Information Entities – data element level

98 ## *5.1 Introduction*

99 These rules are derived from the guidelines and principles described in document ISO
100 11179-5, clause 6 (Guidelines for Structured Naming Conventions). In certain instances,
101 these guidelines have been adapted to the ebXML CC environment. In particular, the
102 guidelines have been extended to cover not only the naming of basic information entities
103 or data elements but also to cover the naming of aggregated information entities.
104
105 Each ebXML basic information entity is defined by a:
106
107 • **Dictionary Entry Name** (Mandatory). Name of the component as derived from
108   these naming convention rules. It consists of an *Object Class*, *Property Term and*
109   *Representation Type*
110
111 • **Definition** (Mandatory). The definition of a Dictionary Entry shall provide the real
112   business use of that entry. It shall use a structure that allows that entry to be easily

113   distinguished between the following: *Object Class*, the *Property Term*, and its
114   *Representation Type*.
115
116   **Note:** Rules for creating definitions are provided in Section 8 of this document**.**
117
118 • **Business term** (Optional). If the Dictionary Entry Name is different from the term
119   used in business, then this business term shall also be presented as synonym. There
120   may be several business terms or synonyms.
121
122   ▪ Dictionary Entry Name   e.g. Account.Identifier; Purchase Order.Identifier
123   ▪ Business Term   e.g. Account Number; Order Number, PO Number,

5.2 Naming Rules

125 **Rule 1:**   The Dictionary Entry Name shall be unique and shall consist of *Object*
126   *Class*, a *Property Term* and *Representation Type.*
127
128 **Rule 2:**   "The *Object Class* represents the logical data grouping (in a logical data
129   model) to which a data element belongs" (ISO11179). The *Object Class* is
130   the part of a core component's Dictionary Entry Name that represents an
131   activity or object in a context.
132
133 An *Object Class* may be individual or aggregated from core components. It may be
134 named by using more than one word.
135
136 **Rule 3:**   The *Property Term* shall represent the distinguishing characteristic of the
137   business entity. The *Property Term* shall occur naturally in the definition.
138
139 **Rule 4:**   The *Representation Type* shall describe the form of the set of valid values
140   for an information element. It shall be one of the terms specified in the
141   "list of *Representation Types*" as included in this document.
142
143 **Note**: If the R*epresentation Type* of an entry is "code" there is often a need for an
144 additional entry for its textual representation. The *Object Class* and *Property Term* of
145 such entries shall be the same. Requesters for new entries may be aware of this fact.)
146
147 **Rule 5:**   A Dictionary Entry Name shall not contain consecutive redundant words.
148   If the *Property Term* uses the same word as the *Representation Type*, this
149   word shall be removed from the *Property Term* part of the Dictionary
150   Entry Name.
151
152 For example: If the *Object Class* is "goods" , the *Property Term* is "delivery date", and
153 *Representation Type* is "date", the Dictionary Entry Name is 'Goods. Delivery. Date'.
154
155 In adoption of this rule the *Property Term* "Identification" could be omitted if the
156 *Representation Type* is "Identifier".

157   For example: The identifier of a party ("Party. Identification. Identifier") will be
158   truncated to "Party. Identifier".
159
160   **Rule 6:**   One and only one *Property Term* is normally present in a Dictionary Entry
161   Name although there may be circumstances where no property term is
162   included. e.g. Currency Code
163
164   **Rule 7:**   The *Representation Type* shall be present in a Dictionary Entry Name. It
165   must not be truncated.
166
167   **Rule 8:**   The *Representation Type* "text" shall be used in the context of names. As
168   names are used to identify objects the *Property Term* will be
169   "identification". Thus the Dictionary Entry Name of an object's name is
170   "Object. Identification. Text".
171
172   **Rule 9:**   A Dictionary Entry Name and all its components shall be in singular form
173   unless the concept itself is plural e.g. goods.
174
175   **Rule 10:**   An *Object Class* as well as a *Property Term* may be composed of one or
176   more words.
177
178   **Rule 11:**   The components of a Dictionary Entry Name shall be separated by dots
179   and a following space character. The words in multi-word *Object Classes*
180   and multi-word *Property Terms* shall be separated by the space character.
181   Every word shall start with a capital letter.
182
183   **Rule 12:**   Special characters may only be used if required by language rules.
184
185   **Rule 13:**   Abbreviations, acronyms and initials shall not be used as part of a
186   Dictionary Entry Name, except where they are used in as business
187   terms/words e.g. UN, DUNS, EAN.
188
189   **Rule 14:**   All accepted acronyms and abbreviations shall be included in an ebXML
190   glossary. If an acronym or abbreviation shall be accepted for inclusion
191   within ebXML it shall be checked whether it is already mentioned in the
192   glossary or needs to be added.

193   ### *5.3 Language specific rules*

194   **Rule 15:**   The dictionary content will be in English Language following Oxford
195   Dictionary English spellings. This assures unambiguous spelling and
196   interpretation.
197
198   **Rule 16:**   There may be restrictions in specific languages, which need to be applied
199   when transforming the ebXML Component Catalog into other languages.

200   These restrictions may be formulated as additional rules and added as
201   separated language specific annexes to this document.
202

203 6 List of Representation Types

The following list contains the permissible *Representation Types*
(as defined with ISO 11179).

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**
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 word or phrase that constitutes the distinctive designation of a person, place, thing or concept.	**Name**
An arithmetical expression representing a particular value. NOTE Its use will be limited to those entities that express a sequence or a member of a series, such as Serial.Number.	**Number**
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, kilometre per litre, 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**
A numeric quantity that is assigned or is determined by calculation or	**Value**

measurement. EbXML additionally defines: The actual content of an information entity	

204 # 7 Naming of Aggregate Information Entities

205
206 Each ebXML aggregate information entity is defined by a:

207
208 - **Dictionary Entry Name** (Mandatory). Name of the component, created following
209   these naming convention rules. It consists of an *Object Class* and its *Property Term*.

210
211   *Core component types* documented on their own do not have a representation type.
212   (Their different components normally have mixed representation types.) As soon as a
213   business entity reuses a Core component type, the representation type of its
214   component carrying the real business value shall be allocated to this reused Core
215   component type.
216   Core component types will use the property term "Type".

217
218   *Aggregates* shall use the *Property Term* "Details".

219
220   According Trade/CEFACT/1999/3 aggregates which are composed of core
221   components probably having different *Representation Types* must not be linked to a
222   *Representation Type*.

223
224 - **Definition** (Mandatory) The definition of an aggregate shall provide the real business
225   use. It shall use a structure which provides a clear distinction between the *Object*
226   *Class* and the *Property Term*.

227
228 - **Business term** (Optional). If the Dictionary Entry Name is different from the term
229   used in business, then this business term shall also be presented as a synonym. There
230   may be several business terms or synonyms.

231
232   ▪ Dictionary Entry Name   e.g. Consignment Cash-on-Delivery Amount. Details
233   ▪ Business Term   e.g. Consignment Cash-on-Delivery Amount

234
235 In all respects, other than the absence of Representation Type, the rules for Basic
236 Information Entities apply.

237 # 8 Rules for Components' Definitions

238 This is a collection of rules which have been agreed upon during the development of the
239 initial set of core components:
240

241 • To avoid the definition simply being a regurgitated version of the Dictionary Entry
242   Name, the definition should repeat the Dictionary Entry Name followed by "is" and
243   provide an understandable definition afterwards, which should also be translatable.
244

245 • One of the fundamental principles specified in IS0 11179, and supported by ebXML,
246   is that the definition should be developed first and the Dictionary Entry Name should
247   be extracted from it.
248

249

9 Disclaimer

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

255 **10 Contact Information**

256 Team Leader
257   Name   Hartmut Hermes
258   Company   Siemens AG
259   Street   Richard Strauss Strasse 76
260   City, state, zip/other   81679 Munich
261   Nation   Germany
262
263   Phone: (089) 92 21-4564
264   Email: hartmut.hermes@mch11.siemens.de
265
266 Editor
267   Name   James Whittle
268   Company   e centre[UK]
269   Street   10, Maltravers Street
270   City, state, zip/other   London
271   Nation   UK
272
273   Phone: +44-20-7655-9022
274   Email: james.whittle@e-centre.org.uk
275

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