OASIS Members Form New Committee to Enable Secure Web Service Discovery and Control of Networked Devices

CA, Microsoft, Nortel, Novell, Progress Software, Red Hat, Ricoh, Software AG, and Others Collaborate to Advance WS Specifications for Devices

Boston, MA, USA; 21 August 2008 – OASIS, the international open standards consortium, has formed a new group to define a lightweight subset of the Web services protocol suite that will make it easy to find, share, and control devices on a network. The OASIS Web Services Discovery and Web Services Devices Profile (WS-DD) Technical Committee will enable printers, storage devices, sensors, building security devices, entertainment systems, energy management equipment, hand-held computers, cell phones, remote controls, and many other devices to be identified, communicated with, and controlled using Web services.

The OASIS WS-DD Technical Committee will base its work on contributions of the WS-Discovery, SOAP-over-UDP (User Datagram Protocol), and DPWS (Devices Profile for Web Services) specifications. Initially developed by a private group of software vendors, these specifications are already being deployed. It's estimated, for example, that at least 117 automation and audio-visual products from 37 different vendors currently support DPWS.

“Advancing this work through the open standards process offers tangible benefits for device and platform vendors, developers and consumers alike,” said Colleen Evans of Microsoft, convener of the OASIS WS-DD Technical Committee. “These standards will enable the development of a new generation of enterprise-enabled resources which can be automatically discovered and then function seamlessly together.”

WS-DD will prescribe how to use elements of core Web services specifications to dynamically discover and describe a Web service. It will also enable the secure exchange of messages, and allow devices to subscribe and receive events from a Web service.

“This work will make it possible for a wide variety of devices to find each other and interoperate using Web services techniques,” noted James Bryce Clark, OASIS director of standards development. “The project will leverage existing basic Web services methods to expand the scope of SOA networks to a much broader range of machines (and endpoints).”

WS-DD will be offered for implementation on a Royalty-Free basis. Participation in the OASIS WS-DD Technical Committee remains open to all interested parties. Archives of the work will be accessible to both members and non-members, and OASIS will offer a mechanism for public comment.

Support for WS-DD

CA
"WS-DD is complementary to standards such as UDDI, and it will help improve the scale and flexibility of applications through the improved dynamic discovery of devices such as smart phones and services that may not be connected. CA will continue to work closely with other industry leaders to enable a new generation of management, security, and governance solutions that support these more dynamic, flexible applications,” said Paul Lipton, Advisor and Senior Architect, Industry Standards and Open Source Program at CA.

Microsoft
“The formation of the WS-DD Technical Committee is an important milestone and builds upon mature WS-* base protocols by expanding the scope to include the wide variety of devices being used today in homes and enterprises. Defining protocols for discovering, securely consuming and exposing Web services in a lightweight footprint that suits these devices has the potential to greatly broaden the reach of Web services to meet customers' needs. Discovery of enterprise resources, whether devices or Web services, can help make large scale SOA implementations more robust and simpler to manage,” said Sriram Rajagopalan, Director of Program Management for Windows Device and Storage Technologies at Microsoft.

Red Hat
“Red Hat is pleased to be involved with WS-DD as we believe this is an important missing piece of the WS-* standardization effort, particularly as it applies to the ongoing move towards more autonomous and large-scale infrastructures that we are seeing being developed,” said Dr. Mark Little, Director of Standards for Red Hat.

Software AG
“A lightweight protocol for locating and identifying Web services instances, dynamically within an ad-hoc environment, should prove invaluable for enterprise-level monitoring of SOA landscapes. By building upon the WS-Discovery specification, we can address such requirements in a pragmatic and interoperable manner. As the co-author of the original specification, we’re delighted to take a leadership role in advancing this standard further through the formation and work of the new

technical committee in OASIS," said Dr. Peter Kürpick, Chief Product Officer and member of the Executive Board for Software AG.

Additional information:

OASIS WS-DD Technical Committee
http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/ws-dd/

WS-DD FAQ
http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/ws-dd/faq.php

About OASIS:
OASIS (Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards) drives the development, convergence, and adoption of open standards for the global information society. A not-for-profit consortium, OASIS advances standards for SOA, security, Web services, documents, e-commerce, government and law, localisation, supply chains, XML processing, and other areas of need identified by its members. OASIS open standards offer the potential to lower cost, stimulate innovation, grow global markets, and protect the right of free choice of technology. The consortium has more than 5,000 participants representing over 600 organizations and individual members in 100 countries. http://www.oasis-open.org

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