

This is the first message to the PIDX Business Message Work Group TRP Specification Team (spec team). The PIDX Standards Sub-Committee chair, Jerry Hubbard, formed the team to write a PIDX-specific transport, routing and packaging (TRP) specification. We need your help to organize the project and do the work.

Charter

"The Business Messages Group TRP Specification Team will develop a transport, routing and packaging (TRP) specification compliant with version 2.0, revision C, of the OASIS ebXML Message Service Specification. The specification will be consistent with the requirements specified in PIDX XML Transaction Standards, version 1.0, and be in sufficient detail to facilitate development of software that will implement the specification."

Deliverables

We need to write a specification that will restrict and extend the OASIS specification to fit our industry, and still comply with the OASIS spec. The spec must provide the same TRP functionality specified in the PIDX XML Transaction Standards, Version 1.0. The goal is to have another PIDX team take the spec we write and develop open source software that implements it.

Why are we doing this?

PIDX developed PIDX XML Transaction Standards, Version 1.0 hoping to lower the expense associated with EDI-based messaging. Several oil and gas companies and exchanges piloted the XML transaction standards. The results of those pilots indicate that the same barriers preventing wide-spread adoption of EDI-based messaging were not eliminated by the PIDX XML standards. This project is part of PIDX's efforts to eliminate the barriers to wide-spread adoption of the standards.

Participants

Participation in the project is open to PIDX member companies, and any other organization with a material interest in the project. Current participants represent oil and gas buyers, suppliers and exchanges. We have participants in Asia, Europe and North America. We do have some gaps, however. I and others have been beating the drums in Schlumberger, and that company is well represented here. We need representatives from other suppliers, as well as from operators. Please distribute this to those you think would be interested.

How to participate

Individual participation can range from reviewing and constructively criticizing the work of others, to doing the work others will constructively criticize. We need both. Work on what interests you, on what your company needs. If you feel your company needs features or functions that aren't addressed in the spec, raise the issue with the group. Others are sure to help you write that into the spec.

Because of the global distribution of this team, meeting face-to-face probably won't happen often. Telephone conferences will be easier, but not without problems. Open communication with this group is key to our success. If we need to have a conference call, we'll do our best to schedule it so that all who want to participate, can.

Rules

Share your knowledge and expertise. Communicate openly and frequently. Make sure your company's interests are addressed. Play nice. Have fun. Your suggestions that will help the group operate better in a distributed environment might become rules later.

Links

PIDX

<http://www.api.org/faeb/pidx/>

PIDX XML Transaction Standards

http://www.comproserv.org/standards_library.asp

OASIS ebXML Message Service Specification

<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/ebxml-msg/>

Hermes (open source software implementing ebMS)

<http://www.freebxml.org/msh.htm>

Next Steps

- Become familiar with the OASIS ebMS spec.
- Review the current PIDX RNIF2 spec.
- We need a format for the spec. If you have one you like, please submit it. Ken Newman has offered to write one and submit it. We should have something to use within a week or so.
- Constructively criticize this effort. What else do we need to do to be successful?