

ECIMF CWA

Concluding the project

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ECIMF – CWAs

- Originally planned CEN Workshop Agreements:
 - ◆ Introduction (ECIMF-Intro)
 - ◆ General Methodology (ECIMF-GM)
 - ◆ Technical Specification (ECIMF-TS)
 - ◆ Proof-of-Concept (ECIMF-POC)
- Latest significant updates:
 - ◆ Latest versions: v.0.3 (November 28, 2001)
 - ◆ Some interesting presentations from February and June meetings not incorporated in the CWAs:
 - ◆ Interoperability through semantic translation with labeling
 - ◆ Relationship to recent ebTWG work on Business Objects
- Where are we now?

Introduction (ECIMF-Intro)

- Latest version changes:
 - ◆ Mostly cosmetic editing:
 - ◆ Added less dense project description
 - ◆ Suggestions from plenary:
 - ◆ Gentle introduction is needed
 - The current version is still far from it!
 - ◆ Understandable vocabulary
 - SMEs don't necessarily know what UML and ontologies are...
- Suggestions for final editing:

General Methodology (ECIMF-GM)

- Latest version changes:
 - ◆ Incorporation of the 4-layer model (added Business Context with REA)
 - ◆ Merged with the Frameworks Integration Guideline
 - ◆ FIG was split into general schema, and detailed instructions are moved to Appendix
 - ◆ Still needs much work...
 - ◆ Improved structure and graphics
 - ◆ Added Semantic Translation and REA meta-models
 - ◆ Expanded section on Business Context Matching
- Suggestions for final editing:

ECIMF-GM: open issues not yet addressed

- List of open issues not properly addressed in the latest version:
 - ◆ Process Mediation:
 - ◆ Currently lacks the overall concept - how to model?
 - ◆ Proposed meta-model sounds too technical...
 - ◆ Needs to be rethought in light of the improved “Business Context with BOTs” approach
 - ◆ Semantic Translation:
 - ◆ Needs more research and a proof-of-concept
 - ◆ More information needed on various algorithms
 - ◆ Syntax Mapping:
 - ◆ There is only outline of the issues involved
 - ◆ Needs to be filled with more content
 - ◆ ECIMF-compliant runtime toolkit
 - ◆ Proposed block diagram provided, needs more discussion
- Suggestions for the final editing:

Technical Specification (ECIMF-TS)

- Latest version status:
 - ◆ Still empty...
 - ◆ Added references to meta-models that underlie the notation to be defined here.
 - ◆ This CWA is very dependent on ECIMF-GM, and perhaps can only be completed when that settles...
- Suggestions for the final editing:

Proof-of-Concept (ECIMF-POC)

■ Latest version status:

◆ Added realistic example:

- ◆ Full analysis of the integration case
- ◆ Real e-commerce frameworks considered
- ◆ All four layers have been discussed

◆ Work pending:

- ◆ Business Context: update models according to the new BC/BOT
- ◆ Process mediation: update worksheets acc. to BC/BOT

■ Suggestions for the final editing:

ECIMF-POC: open issues not yet addressed

- List of open issues not properly addressed in the latest version
 - ◆ Semantic Translation:
 - ◆ Discussion needed - the example uses a fully heuristic approach...
 - ◆ Syntax mapping:
 - ◆ Example needed
 - ◆ MANIFEST generation
 - ◆ Example syntax (based on ST Ontology) looks very complicated...
 - ◆ Implementation:
 - ◆ Figure 6: too low-level (this might be a syntax translator, but not the whole agent...)
- Suggestions for final editing:

ECIMF-POC: tools

■ Latest status:

- ◆ Conzilla: dropped in favor of Protégé-based tool
- ◆ Implemented a new tool, which illustrates the use of semantic labeling for concept mapping
- ◆ The tool is alpha-quality, and its practical usefulness is not quite clear
- ◆ Protégé knowledge-base model seems flexible enough to express all/most concepts, but is somewhat at odds with Topic Maps and RDF.

■ Suggestions for the final deliverables:

ECIMF Website status

- ECIMF Project Information Center

- ◆ <http://www.ecimf.org>

- ◆ Originally hosted by WebGiro, now hosted from funds of a group of former WebGiro employees

- ◆ The current hosting arrangement is valid for the next three months

- Suggestions for continuing the availability of ECIMF project materials:

Summary and conclusions from the Chair ☺

- The original goals of the project couldn't be fully reached:
 - ◆ Changed economic situation affected the main contributor, WebGiro
 - ◆ Too few contributions received from other Workshop members
 - ◆ This affects the final content of CWAs
- However, there are valuable achievements that should be preserved and propagated:
 - ◆ The four-layer model
 - ◆ Use of REA for economic alignment of business parties
 - ◆ Use of and strategies for semantic translation as an interoperability tool

Other conclusions and suggestions?

- New contact:
 - ◆ **Andrzej Bialecki** <ab@getopt.org>