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## **RECOMMENDATIONS ON A MODEL FOR EXPRESSING LEARNER COMPETENCIES**

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**AGREEMENT**

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English version

## Recommendations on a Model for expressing learner competencies

This CEN Workshop Agreement has been drafted and approved by a Workshop of representatives of interested parties, the constitution of which is indicated in the foreword of this Workshop Agreement.

The formal process followed by the Workshop in the development of this Workshop Agreement has been endorsed by the National Members of CEN but neither the National Members of CEN nor the CEN Management Centre can be held accountable for the technical content of this CEN Workshop Agreement or possible conflicts with standards or legislation.

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## Foreword

In order to avoid that European service providers will have to develop their own line of services, platforms and courseware concepts in contradiction to International Standards to cope with European privacy or security demands, the development of European profiles as part of future international standards is urgently required.

The decision for this work item was taken by the Learning Technologies Workshop meeting on 4-5 April 2002.

The work was split into the production of two complementary CWAs:

- Recommendations on a model for expressing learner competencies (this CWA).
- Guidelines for the production of learner information standards and specifications

The document has been developed through the collaboration of a number of contributing partners, representing a wide mix of interests, from universities to commercial companies representatives. The names of the individuals and their affiliations that have expressed support for this CWA is available from the CEN/ISSS Secretariat

The final endorsement round for this CWA was started on the 2003-11-24 and closed on 2003-12-08. The final text of this CWA was submitted to CEN for publication in 2004-01-19.

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## Introduction

Every organisation or enterprise engaged in the fields of formal education, technical, vocational or corporate training, staffing or workforce development creates its own competency definitions and structures.

In fact, several entities have already undertaken the design and implementation of digital repositories in order to support the storage, search, retrieval and management of these definitions, thus dealing with issues ranging from learning resource discovery to accreditation or skill gap analysis. However, these repositories do not exchange information in a standard way, as they all use different information models or assumptions.

We suggest the Reusable Definition of Competency or Educational Objective (RDCEO) specification to be used as the means of defining and referencing competency or educational objective instances in a standardized way and thus enable the exchange of information between organisational entities according to the individual models adopted. This CWA deals with issues and recommendations concerning the application of the RDCEO specification for the creation of competency repositories, to be used within a European context.

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