



National Standards Authority of Ireland

TECHNICAL GUIDE

**I.S. CWA 14948:2004**

ICS 35.240.60

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## **GUIDELINES FOR XML/EDITEX MESSAGES IN THE TEXTILE/CLOTHING SECTOR**

*This Irish Standard was  
published under the  
authority of the National  
Standards Authority of  
Ireland  
and comes into effect on:  
May 12, 2004*

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**CEN**

**CWA 14948**

**WORKSHOP**

March 2004

**AGREEMENT**

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ICS 35.240.60

English version

### **Guidelines for XML/EDITEX messages in the textile/clothing sector**

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**

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The present CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) “Guidelines for XML/ EDITEX messages in the textile/clothing sector” was developed in the framework of the CEN/ISSS Workshop TEX SPIN (TEXtile Supply Chain Integrated Network).

The Workshop TEX SPIN gathered representatives of the textile industry, software houses, associations for textile/clothing sector at national and European level, standards organizations. It started in July 2002 and concluded its activity on 15 November 2003.

The Workshop was promoted by a European consortium led by Euratex, the European Apparel and Textile Organisation based in Brussels.

The TEX SPIN Workshop was based on the contribution, in terms of technologies, experience and know-how, from the parallel pilot project TEX SPIN/ISS (TEXtile Supply Chain Integrated Network/ Information system standards) and from two projects, MODA-ML and ETEXML. The TEX SPIN/ISS project aimed at developing upgraded EDITEX messages conforming to EANCOM and the pilot XML/EDI experiences based on new XML messages<sup>1</sup>. MODA-ML (FP5 IST project) targeted the upstream part of the supply chain, while ETEXML (project funded by the French government) focused on the downstream part of the supply chain.

The pilot Project TEX SPIN/ISSS was partially funded by the European Commission, in the framework of the eEurope initiative.

The production of this CWA was approved at the Workshop TEX SPIN kick-off meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002 in Brussels. A draft version of the CWA was circulated for comments in April 2003. A revised draft CWA was presented at the Workshop final plenary meeting held on 25 June 2003 in Paris. The endorsement round on this CWA was run until the end of July 2003.

The final version was submitted to the CEN/ISSS Secretariat for publication at the end of October 2003.

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<sup>1</sup> Information on the TEX SPIN/ISS project is available at the URL: <http://www.atcrom.ro/tex-spin/>

## **CWA 14948:2004 (E)**

### **1. Scope**

The CWA presents guidelines for the design and implementation of an XML based framework for the communication of players in the TCD chain. It provides common infrastructure components (namely sector specific terms and definitions as well as technology related terms and definitions) and functional features that must be addressed for its successful adoption in business practice ( e.g. security, accountability versatility etc).

The practice and workflow scenarios that can be derived from the Moda-ML and eTexML experiences are included as a best practice description. The best practice suggestion includes also validation procedures for testing the conformity for implementation within such framework.

The convergence of the approaches are discussed and put in context of the ebXML initiative in progress. The document contains suggestions for monitoring developments and implementing steps in the direction taken by the ebXML initiative.

The CWA also includes an inventory of industry and technology related standards and the procedures to maintain this inventory.

The present CWA is considered as pre-normative guideline for the adoption of a technology by a specific industry group with common interests. In this respect, the structure and the content of the CWA serves the following purposes:

- To inform interested readers from within the industry group (market players) on the status-of-the-art and on the methods they can jointly follow in order to facilitate interaction among themselves.
- To allow readers from outside the group decide on the adoption of new methods which could allow them to entertain easier interactions with their specific industry group

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