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**PRODUCT DESCRIPTION AND
CLASSIFICATION - PART 3: RESULTS OF
DEVELOPMENT IN HARMONIZATION OF
PRODUCT CLASSIFICATIONS AND IN
MULTILINGUAL ELECTRONIC CATALOGUES
AND THEIR RESPECTIVE DATA
MODELLING**

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AGREEMENT

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English version

**Product Description and Classification - Part 3: Results of
development in harmonization of product classifications and in
multilingual electronic catalogues and their respective data
modelling**

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Foreword

This draft CWA "Results of development in harmonization of product classifications and in multilingual electronic catalogues and their respective data modelling" is the third CWA produced within Workshop eCAT for the Gen-ePDC project. This CWA replaces the CWA "Results of development of multilingual catalogues and their respective data modeling methodology", which was agreed as 3rd CWA for the Gen-ePDC at the Workshop eCAT plenary meeting on 16 March 2005.

The reason for the change is that development of data modeling in electronic catalogues has been dealt with in CEN/ISSS Workshop eBES (project cCAT) while Workshop eCAT – Gen ePDC has focused on the issues of harmonization of product classification.

Workshop eCAT «Multilingual ecataloguing and eclassification in ebusiness» combined two different projects – one on eCataloguing – which ran in 2003 and 2004 - and another on product classification (ePDC) – which ran from March 2004 to February 2006. Only catalogues and product classification schemas used in eBusiness were taken into consideration.

The ePDC project was divided into two parts. In the first part, a modern architecture for a global, interoperable classification schema was designed. Two CWAs were published:

CWA 15294:2005 "Dictionary of Terminology for Product Classification and Description"

CWA 15295:2005 "Description of References and Data Models for Classification"

The second part – called Gen-ePDC – aimed at discussing with different organizations the possibility for their convergence towards a common base. The role of properties and attributes, the link between classification schemes and electronic catalogues were further explored.

Three CWAs summarise the findings of Gen-ePDC:

CWA «New property library»

CWA «Product classes with sets of properties»

CWA «Results of development in harmonization of product classifications and in multilingual electronic catalogues and their respective data modelling»

The public comment period runs from 1 February 2006 to 1 April 2006.

The present CWA comments the results of the preliminary harmonization of three classifications: GPC, UNSPSC and eCl@ss. It shows the way on how to proceed further, harmonizing other segments of industry or retail. It also explains the different stages that are necessary to begin the harmonization of catalogue structures.

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