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DESCRIPTION OF REFERENCES AND DATA

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MODELS FOR CLASSIFICATION

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AGREEMENT

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English version

Description of References and Data Models for Classification

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Contents

Contents	2
Foreword	4
Introduction	5
1.1 Trends in doing business	5
1.2 Trends in Product coding	5
1.3 Need for data standards across enterprises	6
1.4 Vision	6
2 Normative references	7
3 Abbreviations, terms and definitions	8
3.1 Abbreviations	8
3.2 Terms and definitions	10
4 Product Classification and Product Description	11
4.1 Product Identification Codes	11
4.2 Product Classification Schema	11
4.3 Lists of characteristics	12
4.4 Product Modeling	12
5 Common Architecture for technical dictionaries	16
5.1 Reference model for implementation	16
5.2 Reference model for maintenance	29
5.3 Requirements to ePDC data model	36
5.4 Conceptual ePDC Model	41
5.5 Standardized Basis for ePDC data model	42
5.6 UML representation of ISO 13584-42 Data model	45
5.7 Methodology to Derive Exchange messages	47
6 Recommendations	53
6.1 ISO 13584 / IEC 61360	53
6.2 Define exchange messages	54
6.3 Define a XML message format	54
7 Rules for the Operation of a Joint Committee	55
8 Requirements on the Toolkit for Maintaining the System	57
8.1 Repository	57
8.2 Data Access and Data Manipulation	59
8.3 Data Import and Data Export	61
8.4 Workflow Management	61

8.5	User Management	62
9	Requirements on a Website giving Access to the System	63
9.1	Access to Product Classification Schemes	63
9.2	Change Requests	64
10	Conclusion	65
11	Bibliography	70
12	Annex A – Detailed Final ePDC Data model	74
13	Annex B – ePDC Generic Exchange Format Hierarchy	122
14	Annex C – XML Schema Definition of the ePDC Generic Exchange Format	129
15	Annex D - Acknowledgement	130

Foreword

The production of this final draft CWA 'Description of References and Data Models for Classification' has been written by the ePDC Project Team.

Two versions of the draft CWA were released to the CEN/ISSS Workshop eCAT, the draft CWA was endorsed in September 2004. The comments received were included in this final draft version.

ePDC 'Global Multilingual Product Description and Classification for eCommerce and eBusiness' is a project within the CEN/ISSS/WS/eCAT 'Multilingual catalogue strategies for eCommerce and eBusiness', which started in November 2002 and produced two CWAs.

The objective of the project ePDC is to harmonize existing standards for product description and classification into a common horizontal, cross-industry product classification and description schema and how to maintain it, promote it and make it available to the public.

Aim of the CWA is to help policy makers, business men, researcher and anybody interested to have an overview of the state of art, activities and possible actions to undertake to promote and facilitate the use of inter-operable product description and classification solutions in the scope of electronic Catalogues, based on recognized standards.

The CWA focuses on the following aspects:

Requirements on an Information Model supporting Product Classification and Description for electronic Catalogues

The following aspects are in particular considered:

- Reference Model of Business Processes in Scope
- organizational and procedural issues: Workflow for Maintenance
- technical issues: Requirements on an Information Model

Comparison and Selection of existing standardized Information Models

The CWA contains an analysis of existing standards/specifications which are in scope.

Moreover the CWA contains recommendations related to further actions to be taken in particular regarding standardization.

Requirements on a Toolkit for Maintenance of a Standardized Product Classification and Description Schema

The CWA defines a minimum set of requirements on a tool supporting collaborative, multilingual, pan-European maintenance of a Standardized Product Classification and Description Schema. Some suggestions of how this should be done are put forward.

The present CWA received the support of various experts representing different organizations, a list of experts who supported the contents of this document may be viewed in the Annex.

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