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SC7
Interoperability Study Group

Prepared for the Advisory Group Meeting,
Bangkok, May 2006

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Interoperability Study Group (ISG)

Chartered in the Helsinki Plenary Meeting 2005 via Resolution 856 in order to:

• Investigate the possibility of additional standards or guidance in the area of Interoperability.

• Assess how SC7 standards address interoperability issues and come with recommendations.

The ISG was to take into consideration Interoperability standards from other ISO groups such as TC184/SC5/WG1

ISG Progression

Helsinki:

• ISG met first time; chair / co-chair prepared / distributed preliminary action plan

Bari:

• Chair / co-chair unable to attend; meeting call / agenda / presentation prepared / distributed.

• TC184/SC5/WG1 (liaison) member prepared material on InterOp / ATHENA / new Interop Std

• Low attendance - apparently low interest in this topic

Item	Description	Input	Action
1	Define what it is Interoperability		Analysis
2	Is interoperability a property or an aspect of a property (e.g. quality)?		Analysis
3	What are the meanings associated by SC7 members and users to interoperability?		Enquiring
4	What are the interoperability aspects relevant to SC7?		Analysis
5	Has similar or relevant work been done within other groups of SC7?		Investigate
6	Has similar or relevant work been done within other SCs or TCs (for example in TC184/SC5/WG1 liaision)		Investigate, attend TC184/SC5? WG1 presentation
7	Explain relations between interoperability and 'similar' concepts such as interface, interaction, integration (component), incorporation (services), inclusion (system-of-system)		Analysis
8	Relation between lifecycle (phases) and interoperability		Analysis
9	Relation between specialisation / generality and interoperability. (*e.g. is interoperability concept in 15288 applicable (with minor changes) to 12207?*)		Analysis
10	Are there *levels* of interoperability? If yes, what are those levels - in literature and relating to SC7, and what (if any) frameworks for assessing interoperability (e.g. like an 'Interoperability Maturity Model') have been used?		Analysis
11	If no interoperability framework exists, would it be warranted to develop one for SC7? If one or more exist, are they directly usable for SC7 or they need customisation - if so, what kind of?		Research
12	Do we need a metamodel of artefacts to determine where interoperations between those artefacts occur?		Analysis

Action Items

ISG Progression

Post Bari:

• Limited time available for chair to prompt ISG members into action; co-chair unavailable.

• ISG action plan items have not been advanced

• Low amount of feedback on action plan topics

Bangkok:

• Tentative meeting (Wed pm?) / informal consultation to decide whether to extend the group or dismantle it.

What Next ?

- Interoperability is an essential issue. However, there is no consistent meaning associated to this term, sometimes even within ISO SCs.

- Significant work is done by other ISO SCs. Should SC7 put effort in this area as well or take results?

- It appears currently there is not enough interest in this topic within SC7

- Therefore, subject to the outcome of the tentative ISG meeting, it is proposed that ISG be disbanded.

References

- Proposed Action Plan for the Interoperability Study Group
Interoperability_Study_Group_Plan_v5.doc

- TC184/SC5/WG1 member slides / report for SC7 - Bari
INTEROP JTC1-SC7 presentation.ppt, Presentation on Interoperability at Bari Meeting of JTC1.doc, JTC1-SC7-05-10-bari.doc

- TC184/SC5 RESOLUTION 493 (Frankfurt 7) – Applicability of SC5 Standards to JTC1/SC7 Work

- ISG Meeting Call and Agenda – Bari Oct 2005
ISG Meeting Call - Bari October 2005 - v1.doc

Thank you

Questions ?