CEN/ISSS Workshop Tex-Weave

Standardization and Interoperability in the Textile Supply Chain Integrated Networks

New Collaboration Scenarios for Manufacturing Integration

WS/TEX-WEAVE has been a standardisation initiative with the objective to provide the Textile/Clothing (TC) sector with a framework for system interoperability; it is based on standardised electronic document exchange (XML Schemas) on Internet and aims to foster its adoption in the real business supply chains. The workshop began in <u>March 2005</u> and ended on <u>August 2006</u>.

Background

The Textile/Clothing sector is characterized by the fragmentation with a large number of small and medium firms and by the tendency to create subsectorial communities based on industrial districts or product typology.

A number of local e-Business "dialects" born for internal use inside these communities have been applied to proprietary e-Business platforms (Marketplaces, ASP, etc.) all around Europe.

If this is unavoidable, a higher-level standard business semantic to make these e-Businesses "islands" interoperable is an urgent need felt by almost everybody operating in the market.

WS/TEX-WEAVE has been built upon the results of the **WS/TEX-SPIN** and other pilot projects (**Moda-ML, eTexML, VISIT eChain, WWS Profil, TextileBusiness**), which were concluded in previous years (TEX-SPIN results are collected in CEN/ISSS CWA 14948, March 2004).

WS/TEX-WEAVE has extended and consolidated the technological results of TEX-SPIN and has supported the creation of critical mass for their widespread adoption by industry. This objective is pursued adding more flexibility and capacity to deal with business communities and giving more emphasis to the sharing of common dictionaries and business models.

Detailed Workshop activities:

1. Extension of the process coverage to new businesses, beyond the results of TEX-SPIN, thanks to an improved framework of business scenarios, an enlarged XML Dictionary and new templates of XML documents.
The final specifications have been published as

> CWA (CEN Workshop Agreement) 15557:2006
> "Scenarios and XML templates for B2B in the textile clothing manufacturing and retail"
> http://www.cenorm.be/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/isss/activity/tex-weave.asp

2. New standardisation supports that simplify the maintenance and dissemination of the XML (for example online documentation and dictionary)

3. Identification of cross-sectorial standardisation scenarios and business models.

4. Disseminate and create awareness across the business community and the stakeholders in the T/C sector (public events, web site, help desk and training)

5. Establish TEX-WEAVE pilots through an adaptation and integration of already existing products and platforms.

Due to administrative problems caused by changes in the European Commission contractual rules for standardization the tasks 2, 3, 4 and 5 were not completely accomplished but task 1 was completed and produced the CWA 15557:2006 and all the XML schemas and related documentation that has been published on the web site of the project: *www.texweave.org*

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