ECIMF CWA Overview

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ECIMF – CWAs

- CEN Workshop Agreements:
  - Introduction (ECIMF-Intro)
  - General Methodology (ECIMF-GM)
  - Technical Specification (ECIMF-TS)
  - Proof-of-Concept (ECIMF-POC)
- Significant updates:
  - Latest versions: v.0.3 (November 28, 2001)
- Where are we now?

Introduction (ECIMF-Intro)

- Mostly cosmetic editing:
  - Added less dense project description
- Suggestions from plenary:
  - Gentle introduction is needed
    - The current version is still far from it!
  - Understandable vocabulary
    - SMEs don't necessarily know what UML and ontologies are…

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General Methodology (ECIMF-GM)

- Extensive changes and additions:
  - Incorporation of the 4-layer model (added Business Context with REA)
  - Merged with the Frameworks Integration Guideline
    - FIG was split into general schema, and detailed instructions are moved to Appendix
    - Still needs much work…
  - Improved structure and graphics
  - Added Semantic Translation and REA meta-models
  - Expanded section on Business Context Matching

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ECIMF-GM: pending work

- Process Mediation:
  - Currently lacks the overall concept - how to model?
  - Proposed meta-model sounds too technical…
  - Needs to be rethought in light of the improved "Business Context with BOTs" approach
- Semantic Translation:
  - Needs more research and a proof-of-concept
  - More information needed on various algorithms
- Syntax Mapping:
  - There is only outline of the issues involved
  - Needs to be filled with more content
- ECIMF-compliant runtime toolkit
  - Proposed block diagram provided, needs more discussion

Technical Specification (ECIMF-TS)

- Still empty…
  - ◆ Added references to meta-models that underlie the notation to be defined here.
- This CWA is very dependent on ECIMF-GM, and perhaps can only be completed when that settles…

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Proof-of-Concept (ECIMF-POC)

- Added realistic example:
  - ◆ Full analysis of the integration case
  - ◆ Real e-commerce frameworks considered
  - ◆ All four layers have been discussed
- Work pending:
  - ◆ Business Context: update models according to the new BC/BOT
  - ◆ Process mediation: update worksheets acc. to BC/BOT

ECIMF-POC: pending work

- **Semantic Translation:**
  - Discussion needed - the example uses a fully heuristic approach…
- **Syntax mapping:**
  - Example needed
- **MANIFEST generation**
  - Example syntax (based on ST Ontology) looks very complicated…
- **Implementation:**
  - Figure 6: too low-level (this might be a syntax translator, but not the whole agent…)

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ECIMF-POC: tools

- Conzilla:
  - Newly added RDF support
  - Complex, poorly documented code…
  - Too abstract for business users?
  - Initial version of Protégé plugin
- Urgently needed suggestions for other components to support our methodology!

Changes and amendments

- Intro
  - Gentle introduction
- Business Context & BOTs: wide changes in all docs.
- General Methodology
  - Rework Business Context / BOT
  - Process mediation: meta-model?, ideas?
  - Semantic translation: meta-model; methodologies?
  - Syntax mapping: meta-model?, techniques?
- Technical Specification
  - Contents
- Proof-of-concept
  - TOOLS!
  - Continue the work on the example

Further information

- ECIMF Project Information Center
  - http://www.ecimf.org