



MEMO: Creation of an "iptc" URN namespace

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IPTC already registered a namespace called "newsml" in 2001 (RFC 3085) and decided to "upgrade" it for more general purposes, particularly for defining XML namespace in NewsIT instances to be able to validate NITF, SportsML and other content within the ContentItem element. For this reason a draft for an update was filed and submitted to IETF in summer 2002. After meandering through the bureaucracy of IETF it was returned to the IPTC MD in June 2003 for a more clearly distinction of the two formats of the URN – it was proposed to have one structure/format for the present use and a second one for the new use.

While evaluating a better distinction between both versions it turned out that stringent definitions for both purposes would be contradictory.

Since it is a vital requirement to have a namespace available for defining XML namespaces for IPTC standards and after discussing this with Stéphane Guérillot I started to develop a URN namespace called "iptc". It should meet this need but after having a look at the URN namespace definitions of OASIS, xml.org and others I took the opportunity to create a namespace also covering requirements to uniquely identify all IPTC created resources, e.g. documents specifying and supporting standards and all our working documents too as outlined in IPTC's Naming Convention – STA0307a.

As a result from these considerations I created document "draft-steidl-iptc-urn-00.txt".

How to proceed:

I circulate this document to all members of the Management Committee and the Standards Steering Committee and Misha Wolf as our "non-IPTC standards liaison" asking for **comments and approval** for this draft (please use the "notes" feature of Adobe Acrobat) until **5 September 2003**.

In case of a clear majority approving this draft it will be forwarded to IETF, if not, this document will be circulated to the whole membership of IPTC and will be discussed and voted on in the Autumn meeting.

Having a "short track" procedure was decided for having the namespace as soon as possible since IPTC works on this issue for exactly one year now.

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