



MEMO: Creation of an "iptc" URN namespace

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Date: 2003-08-08 & 2003-09-09

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" in August 2003.

After some consideration of this draft and discussion with IPTC members I updated this document to "draftB-steidl-iptc-urn-00.pdf".

How to proceed:

This draft should be discussed and agreed on at the IPTC Autumn Meeting in early October 2003. After that the (probably updated) draft will be forwarded to IETF and IANA to be first circulated to the public on the IETF RFC-draft list and should be finally approved to be an official RFC document. In parallel with this IANA registers the namespace "iptc".

It could be expected to have the namespace registered six months after submission to IETF and IANA.

=== END of document ===

URN Namespace for IPTC

August 2003

Network Working Group
Internet Draft
Document: draft-steinl-iptc-urn-00.txt
Expires: January 2004

M. Steinl
IPTC
August 2003

URN Namespace for IPTC

Status of this Memo

This document is an Internet-Draft and is in full conformance with all provisions of Section 10 of RFC2026 [i]. Internet-Drafts are working documents of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), its areas, and its working groups. Note that other groups may also distribute working documents as Internet-Drafts. Internet-Drafts are draft documents valid for a maximum of six months and may be updated, replaced, or obsoleted by other documents at any time. It is inappropriate to use Internet-Drafts as reference material or to cite them other than as "work in progress." The list of current Internet-Drafts can be accessed at <http://www.ietf.org/ietf/lid-abstracts.txt> The list of Internet-Draft Shadow Directories can be accessed at <http://www.ietf.org/shadow.html>.

Abstract

This document describes a URN (Uniform Resource Name) namespace for identifying persistent resources published by the International Press Telecommunications Council, IPTC. These resources include XML Data Type Definition files (DTD), XML Schema, Namespaces in XML, XSL stylesheets, other XML based document and documents of other data formats like PDF documents, Microsoft Office documents and others.

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1. Introduction

The International Press Telecommunications Council, established in 1965, is a non-profit consortium of the world's major news agencies and news industry vendors. It develops and maintains technical standards for the news business that are used by virtually every major news organization in the world.

Since the 1990's IPTC's standardization work is based on open standards like first SGML, then the XML family of standards, MIME, Unicode etc.

As some of these standards require identification of resources IPTC was looking for a technology for globally unique, persistent and location-independent identifiers and decided to implement URNs as described in "URN Syntax" [RFC 2141] for this reason.

This namespace specification is for a formal namespace.

2. IANA URN Specification Template

2.1 Namespace ID

"iptc" requested.

2.2 Registration Information

Registration Version Number: 1
Registration Date: @@HAS TO BE FILLED IN AT SUBMISSION@@

Declared registrant of the namespace:

Registering organization:
International Press Telecommunications Council IPTC
Royal Albert House
Sheet Street
Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1BE
www.iptc.org

Designated contact person:
Michael Steidl
Managing Director
mdirector@iptc.org

2.3 Declaration of syntactic structure

All URNs assigned by IPTC will have a Namespace Specific String (NSS) of the following hierarchical structure:

At the top of the hierarchy are five branches:

- "stdspec"
- "stdspec-draft"
- "stdsupp"
- "stdsupp-draft"
- "doc"

The "stdspec" branch hierarchy:

The "stdspec" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources used for specifying any aspect of an IPTC standard.

The NSS in the "stdspec" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:stdspec:{std-name}:{std-version}:{std-spec-type}  
  { :doc-revision }? { :doc-format-id }?
```

where

"std-name" is a unique identifier for an IPTC standard.
"std-version" reflects the version of this standard as a sequence of two integers separated by a dot, representing the major and minor version number.
"std-spec-type" is an identifier for the type of the specification (DTD, XML Schema, Functional Specification, etc.)
"doc-revision" reflects any formal revision to the document by optionally adding a lowercase character of the range "a" to "z".
"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document.

The "stdspec-draft" branch hierarchy:

The "stdspec-draft" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources used for specifying any aspect of an IPTC standard while being in draft status, that is at a time when the resource is not formally approved by the IPTC Standards body.

The NSS in the "stdspec-draft" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:stdspec-draft:{std-name}:{std-version}:{std-spec-type}
  {:doc-revision}?{:doc-format-id}?
```

where

"std-name" is a unique identifier for an IPTC standard.
"std-version" reflects the version of this standard as a sequence of two integers separated by a dot, representing the major and minor version number.
"std-spec-type" is an identifier for the type of the specification (DTD, XML Schema, Functional Specification, etc.)
"doc-revision" reflects any formal revision to the document by optionally adding a lowercase character of the range "a" to "z".
"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document.

The "stdsupp" branch hierarchy:

The "stdsupp" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources used for the support of IPTC standards like supporting documentation, XSL style sheets, CSS files etc.

The NSS in the "stdsupp" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:stdsupp:{doc-name}:{doc-version}{:doc-revision}?
  {:ref-std-name}:{ref-std-version}{:doc-format-id}?
```

where

"doc-name" is a unique identifier for a document of this branch
"doc-version" reflects the version of this document as an integer.
"ref-std-name" is the unique identifier of an IPTC standard.
"ref-std-version" is the version ID of an IPTC standard.
The combination of {ref-std-name}:{ref-std-version} has to be already defined as a {std-name}:{std-version} combination in the "stdspec" branch of this hierarchy.
"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document.

The "stdsupp-draft" branch hierarchy:

The "stdsupp-draft" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources used for the support of IPTC standards like supporting documentation, XSL style sheets, CSS files etc. while being in draft status, that is at a time when the resource is not formally

approved by an IPTC body.

The NSS in the "stdsupp-draft" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:stdsupp-draft:{doc-name}:{doc-version}{:doc-revision}?  
  :{ref-std-name}:{ref-std-version}{:doc-format-id}?
```

where

"doc-name" is a unique identifier for a document of this branch
"doc-version" reflects the version of this document as a integer.
"doc-revision" reflects any formal revision to the document by optionally adding a lowercase character of the range "a" to "z".
"ref-std-name" is the unique identifier of an IPTC standard.
"ref-std-version" is the version ID of an IPTC standard.
The combination of {ref-std-name}:{ref-std-version} has to be already defined as a {std-name}:{std-version} combination in the "stdspec" branch of this hierarchy.
"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document.

The "doc" branch hierarchy:

The "doc" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources not directly related to IPTC standards but to the work of IPTC.

The NSS in the "doc" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:doc:{group-id}:{doc-id}{:doc-revision}?{:doc-descr}?  
  {:doc-format-id}?
```

where

"group-id" is a unique identifier for working groups and working areas of IPTC and constitutes a document group.
"doc-id" is a unique identifier for a document within a document group.
"doc-revision" reflects any formal revision to the document by optionally adding a lowercase character of the range "a" to "z".
"doc-descr" is an optional concise description of the document content.
"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document.

2.4 Relevant ancillary documentation

None

2.5 Identifier uniqueness considerations

Identifier uniqueness will be enforced by the Managing Director of IPTC who will assign unique identifiers to all documents identified by a URN.

2.6 Identifier persistence considerations

IPTC is committed to maintaining the accessibility and persistence of all resources that are identified by an IPTC URN.

2.7 Process of identifier assignment

Assignment is limited to the owner of this namespace and its authorities.

2.8 Process for identifier resolution

IPTC will provide an appropriate mechanism that maps all assigned URNs to Uniform Resource Locators (URL), specifically to enable web based resolution of URNs.

2.9 Rules for Lexical Equivalence

URNs are lexically equivalent in case being lexically identical.

2.10 Conformance with URN Syntax

No special considerations.

2.11 Validation mechanism

None specified. IPTC will provide a mechanism for resolving URNs to URLs (see 2.8), the availability of a URL for a specific URN shows that it is valid.

2.12 Scope

Global.

3. Examples

The following examples are representative for IPTC URNs, but may not refer to actual resources.

urn:iptc:stdspec:newsml:1.1:dtd:dtd
DTD for the IPTC standard "NewsML", version 1.1

urn:iptc:stdspec-draft:nitf:3.5:xml-schema:xsd
Draft XML Schema for the IPTC standard "NITF", version 3.5

urn:iptc:stdspec:sportsml:1.0:xmlns
URN to identify an XML namespace for the IPTC standard "SportsML", version 1.0

urn:iptc:stdsupp:news-agency-guidelines:1:b:newsml:1.1:pdf
Support document named "news-agency-guidelines", version 1, revision b, based on the IPTC standard "NewsML" version 1.1, in PDF format.

urn:iptc:doc:nma:0315:srs-terms:pdf
Document of IPTC's News Metadata Working Party (NMA) holding terms of the Subject Reference System, as PDF file.

4. Namespace Considerations and Community Considerations

The IPTC acknowledged already the use of URNs during the development of its XML based standard "NewsML". This standard implements the use of URNs as unique identifiers for news items as described in "URN Namespace for NewsML resources"[RFC3085].

While developing additional XML based standards as siblings to NewsML, IPTC soon got aware that URNs have to be assigned to resources that fall beyond the scope of the NewsML namespace. For this reason IPTC developed a new and very general hierarchical namespace structure to cover the needs of the currently developed standards as well as future standards and to be able to assign URNs to resources emanating from them.

In addition to resources relating directly to its standards, IPTC also produces and publishes other documents relevant to the news business. As those resources are used by many organizations outside the IPTC membership and therefore could not be considered as internal documents IPTC decided to add a branch to the URN hierarchy to be assigned to these resources.

IPTC maintains global activities and its standards as well as resources based on them are used world wide. Since one focus of the

activities of IPTC is the global exchange of news any system for unique identification of resources has to be considered under global aspects.

For this reason IPTC considers the introduction of a URN namespace for its resources as proper action to maintain globally unique, persistent and location-independent identifiers based on open standards.

5. Security Considerations

There are no additional security considerations other than those normally associated with the use and resolution of URNs in general.

6. IANA Considerations

This document includes a URN Namespace registration that conforms to the "Uniform Resources Names (URN) Namespace Definition Mechanism" [RFC3406] and is to be entered into the IANA registry for URN NIDs.

References

- [RFC2141] Moats, R., "URN Syntax", RFC 2141, May 1997.
- [RFC3406] Daigle, L. et al., "Uniform Resource Names (URN) Namespace Definition Mechanisms", RFC 3406, October 2002.
- [W3CXML] W3C, XML WG, "Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0", February 1998, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml>>.
- [W3CXMLNS] W3C, Namespaces WG, "Namespaces in XML", January 1999, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml-names>>.
- [RFC2483] Mealling, M. and R. Daniel, "URI Resolution Services Necessary for URN Resolution", RFC 2483, January 1999.
- [RFC3085] Coates, et al., "URN Namespace for NewsML resources", RFC 3085, March 2001.

Author's Addresses

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URN Namespace for IPTC

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August 2003

URN Namespace for IPTC (IPTC-INTERNAL DRAFT B)

Status of this Memo

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Abstract

This document describes a URN (Uniform Resource Name) namespace for identifying persistent resources published by the International Press Telecommunications Council, IPTC. These resources include XML Data Type Definition files (DTD), XML Schema, Namespaces in XML, XSL stylesheets, other XML based document and documents of other data formats like PDF documents, Microsoft Office documents and others.

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1.

Introduction

The International Press Telecommunications Council, established in 1965, is a non-profit consortium of the world's major news agencies and news industry vendors. It develops and maintains technical standards for the news business that are used by virtually every major news organization in the world.

Since the 1990's IPTC's standardization work is based on open standards like first SGML, then the XML family of standards, MIME, Unicode etc.

As some of these standards require identification of resources IPTC was looking for a technology for globally unique, persistent and location-independent identifiers and decided to implement URNs as described in "URN Syntax" [RFC 2141] for this reason.

This namespace specification is for a formal namespace.

2.

IANA URN Specification Template

2.1

Namespace ID

"iptc" requested.

2.2

Registration Information

Registration Version Number: 1
Registration Date: @@HAS TO BE FILLED IN AT SUBMISSION@@

Declared registrant of the namespace:

Registering organization:
International Press Telecommunications Council IPTC
Royal Albert House
Sheet Street
Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1BE
www.iptc.org

Designated contact person:
Michael Steidl
Managing Director
mdirector@iptc.org

2.3

Declaration of syntactic structure

All URNs assigned by IPTC will have a Namespace Specific String (NSS) of the following hierarchical structure:

At the top of the hierarchy are three branches:

- "std"
- "std-draft"
- "workdoc"

The "std" branch hierarchy:

The "std" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources used for specifying and explaining any aspect of an IPTC standard.

The NSS in the "std" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:std:{std-name}:{std-version}:{res-group}
           :{res-name}{:res-version}?{:doc-format-id}?
```

where

"std-name" is a unique identifier for an IPTC standard.

"std-version" reflects the version of this standard as a sequence of two integers separated by a dot, representing the major and minor version number.

"res-group": this field will take only two values:

"spec" for all resources used for specifying a standard,

"doc" for all resources used for additional documentation of and to support the use of a standard.

"res-name" is an identifier for a resource; the name should describe the content or the use of the resource.

"res-version" reflects the version of this resource as long as it is takes a physical format - like e.g. a file - as a sequence of two integers separated by a dot, representing the version and a revision number. Since not all resources are of a physical kind this value is optional.

"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document. Since not all resources are a file this value is optional.

The "std-draft" branch hierarchy:

The "std-draft" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources used for specifying and explaining any aspect of an IPTC standard while being in draft status, that is at a time when the resource is not formally approved by the IPTC Standards body.

The NSS in the "std" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:std-draft:{std-name}:{std-version}:{res-group}
  :{res-name}{:res-version}?{:doc-format-id}?
```

The substructure of "urn:iptc:std-draft" is identical to that of "urn:iptc:std", see all explanations there.

The "workdoc" branch hierarchy:

The "workdoc" branch URNs will be assigned to IPTC resources not directly related to IPTC standards but to the work of IPTC.

The NSS in the "doc" branch will have this general structure:

```
urn:iptc:workdoc:{group-id}:{doc-id}:{doc-version}{:doc-descr}?
  {:doc-format-id}?
```

where

"group-id" is a unique identifier for working groups and working areas of IPTC and constitutes a document group.

"doc-id" is a unique identifier for a document within a document group.

"doc-version" reflects the version of this work document as a sequence of two integers separated by a dot, representing the version and a revision number.

"doc-descr" is an optional concise description of the document content.

"doc-format-id" is an optional identifier for the internal file format of the document.

2.4

Relevant ancillary documentation

None

2.5

Identifier uniqueness considerations

Identifier uniqueness will be enforced by the Managing Director of IPTC who will assign unique identifiers to all resources identified by a URN.

2.6

Identifier persistence considerations

IPTC is committed to maintaining the accessibility and persistence of all resources that are identified by an IPTC URN.

2.7

Process of identifier assignment

Assignment is limited to the owner of this namespace and its authorities.

2.8

Process for identifier resolution

IPTC will provide an appropriate mechanism that maps all assigned URNs to Uniform Resource Locators (URL), specifically to enable web based resolution of URNs.

2.9

Rules for Lexical Equivalence

URNs are lexically equivalent in case being lexically identical.

2.10

Conformance with URN Syntax

No special considerations.

2.11

Validation mechanism

None specified. IPTC will provide a mechanism for resolving URNs to URLs (see 2.8), the availability of a URL for a specific URN shows that it is valid.

2.12

Scope

Global.

3.

Examples

The following examples are representative for IPTC URNs, but may not refer to actual resources.

urn:iptc:std:newsml:1.1:spec:DTD:1.0:dtd

DTD version 1.0 for the IPTC standard "NewsML", version 1.1

urn:iptc:std-draft:nitf:3.5:spec:xml-schema:1.0:xsd

Draft XML Schema 1.0 for the IPTC standard "NITF", version 3.5

urn:iptc:std:sportsml:1.0:spec:xmlns

URN to identify an XML namespace for the IPTC standard "SportsML", version 1.0. No "res-version" and "doc-format-id" since a namespace is of no physical format.

urn:iptc:std:newsml:1.1:doc:news-agency-guidelines:1.2:pdf

Support document named "news-agency-guidelines", version 1, revision 2, based on the IPTC standard "NewsML" version 1.1, in PDF format.

urn:iptc:workdoc:NMA:0315:1.0:srs-terms:pdf

Work document of IPTC's News Metadata Working Party (NMA), version 1.0, holding terms of the Subject Reference System, as PDF file.

4.

Namespace Considerations and Community Considerations

The IPTC acknowledged already the use of URNs during the development of its XML based standard "NewsML". This standard implements the use of URNs as unique identifiers for news items as described in "URN Namespace for NewsML resources"[RFC3085].

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In addition to resources relating directly to its standards, IPTC also produces and publishes other documents relevant to the news business. As those resources are used by many organizations outside the IPTC membership and therefore could not be considered as internal documents IPTC decided to add a branch to the URN hierarchy to be assigned to these resources.

IPTC maintains global activities and its standards as well as resources based on them are used world wide. Since one focus of the activities of IPTC is the global exchange of news any system for

unique identification of resources has to be considered under global aspects.

For this reason IPTC considers the introduction of a URN namespace for its resources as proper action to maintain globally unique, persistent and location-independent identifiers based on open standards.

5.
Security Considerations

There are no additional security considerations other than those normally associated with the use and resolution of URNs in general.

6.
IANA Considerations

This document includes a URN Namespace registration that conforms to the "Uniform Resources Names (URN) Namespace Definition Mechanism" [RFC3406] and is to be entered into the IANA registry for URN NIDs.

References

- [RFC2141] Moats, R., "URN Syntax", RFC 2141, May 1997.
- [RFC3406] Daigle, L. et al., "Uniform Resource Names (URN) Namespace Definition Mechanisms", RFC 3406, October 2002.
- [W3CXML] W3C, XML WG, "Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0", February 1998, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml>>.
- [W3CXMLNS] W3C, Namespaces WG, "Namespaces in XML", January 1999, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml-names>>.
- [RFC2483] Mealling, M. and R. Daniel, "URI Resolution Services Necessary for URN Resolution", RFC 2483, January 1999.
- [RFC3085] Coates, et al., "URN Namespace for NewsML resources", RFC 3085, March 2001.

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