



IPTC AUTUMN MEETING 2004

held at
Park Hotel, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Stadhouderskade 25, 1071 ZD Amsterdam

6th to 8th October 2004

Minutes of the Standards Committee held on 6th and 8th of October 2004

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Present:

Chairman: Stéphane Guérillot, Agence France Presse

Walter Baranger, New York Times Company
Shun-Ping Chen, Deutsche Presse-Agentur GmbH
Dave Compton, Reuters Limited
Jay Cousins, RivCom
Honor Craig-Bennett, PA NewsLtd
Arnaud Descamps, Relaxnews
Nick Evansky, The Associated Press
Takahiro Fujiwara, EAST Co. Ltd
Andy Gleeson, BBC Monitoring
Walter Grolimund, Keystone
Darko Gulija, HINA
Geoffrey Haynes, The Associated Press
Klaus Herwig, Deutsche Presse-Agentur GmbH
Niels Hojer-Pedersen, Ritzau Bureau I's
Kelvin Holland, Harris and Baseview
Rudi Horvath, Austria Presse Agentur
Chris Hugh-Jones, Fingerpost Ltd
John Iobst, Newspaper Association of America
Hugh Johnstone, IPTC
Dean Large, Business Wire

Laurent Le Meur, Agence France Presse
Johan Lindgren, Tidningarnas Telegrambyrå
Harald Löffler, ifra
Jayson Lorenzen, Business Wire
Takis Mantis, ANA, Athens News Agency
Angelo Marrara, ANSA
John Minting, United Press International
Stephen Moyes, The Associated Press
Peter Müller, SDA/ATS
Stuart Myles, Dow Jones & Company
Shiro Onishi, Kyodo News
Jean-François Richard, Agence France Presse
Hitoshi Saito, Nihon Shinbun Kyokai
Michael Schlein, New York Times Company
Klaus Sprick, Deutsche Presse-Agentur GmbH
Henrik Stadler, Tidningarnas Telegrambyrå
Koji Tanaka, Nihon Shinbun Kyokai
Charles Tichenor, The Associated Press
Tadashi Tsuji, Nihon Shinbun Kyokai
Misha Wolf, Reuters Limited

Michael Steidl, IPTC Managing Director as Secretary

1 IPTC Standards development strategy

The Chairman said work in the past few months was focussing on NewsML 2 and the Global Metadata Framework.

All other groups working on the various IPTC standards were invited to send comments and requirements regarding the NewsML 2 business requirements – but only a few were received.

2 Global Metadata Framework (GMF)

Laurent Le Meur said he and Misha Wolf undertook to chair this initiative to define a global framework for IPTC metadata.

He reported having received only one document with requirements for metadata from the EventsML working group.



Misha Wolf said he had uploaded a document with a list of requirements for Topics already introduced at the Spring 2004 Meeting to the “iptc-metadata” Yahoo group that was set up to discuss the GMF effort.

For better and deeper understanding he explained the paper again.

Misha Wolf pointed out work can only be done by collecting and discussion requirements from various work areas of the IPTC and therefore he asked all working party/group chairmen urgently

Action ● to send in their requirements by the 6 November 2004 latest.

This request for papers will be circulated by the Managing Director to all chairpersons.

The chairmen should send all their papers to the Managing Director.

In November work on reconciling the various requirements and formulating the framework should commence.

3 Common design of XML Schemas for IPTC standards

(This discussion was held as a workshop style meeting under the auspices of the Standards Committee)

The Chairman reminded of document SSC0303 dealing with the conversion of DTD to XML Schema which can be considered as a first step of in depth discussion on how to implement the XML Schema technology at the IPTC.

Then he said Alan Karben and Johan Lindgren prepared presentations for this workshop meeting.

Alan Karben – who joined by phone dial-in – gave a presentation of his “Thoughts on Common Schema Design” (see appendix to these minutes) and pointed out XML Schema design can be done in different ways in terms of architecture and formal style. To that end he suggested that a “Schema Style Task Force” could be created to consider, discuss, decide and propose a common style for all IPTC standards.

Then Alan Karben continued to show how XML Schemas can be used to hold a list of enumerated values – that can be considered as a controlled vocabulary.

DISCUSSION

Laurent Le Meur asked if it makes sense to load a big, several hundred kilobytes XML Schema just only to retrieve the user interface labels for topics.

Misha Wolf pointed out the GMF effort is intended to deal with the implementation of metadata and not the XML Schema Style Task Force.

Laurent Le Meur proposed to focus on the style issues like naming conventions, use of namespace prefix or not, and what kind of breaking up a single schema to components should be used.

Misha Wolf raised the question who should work on these issues.

Johan Lindgren asked if the IPTC working groups have to wait with until the Spring Meeting to apply the common style, he would like to see results earlier.

Misha Wolf said they key issue is: have the groups to wait until this set of styles is ratified.

Geoffrey Haynes asked how many issues have to be clarified.

These issues were brought forward: case format of names, spelling, delimiters, naming in general, (IPTC internal) versioning of elements.



The Chairman summarized:

- a task force should be set up to clarify all issues regarding a common style for XML Schemas
- first this group should list all issues
- then they should make choices in case of “lightweight” and easy to reconcile issues
- and finally in case of issues where no agreement could be reached the group should show options to the membership to make decisions at that level.

This could be a template for the upcoming NITF 3.3 XML Schema.

The Chairman asked who would volunteer to join this task force:

Laurent Le Meur, Johan Lindgren, Takahiro Fujiwara, Honour Craig-Bennett, Misha Wolf, Alan Karben and Chuck Tichenor volunteered.

It was agreed:

- to set up a Yahoo group for this purpose

(set up as: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/iptc-xmlschema-style>)

- the work of this task force should be moderated by the Managing Director as he is considered to be neutral in a sort of “style competition” that might arise from a discussion.

The Managing Director said first results should be expected by the end of 2004.

4 Report from the IPTC Metadata for XMP project working group

(The meeting of the Standards Committee was continued for that item on October 8th, 2004)

The Chairman welcomed Gunar Penikis, Product Manager, XMP at Adobe Systems Inc. as guest.

The Managing Director moderated the work of this joint working group of the IPTC, Adobe and IDEAlliance, hence he gave an introduction to the results from this effort:

Overall goals were

- * to “rescue” the IPTC headers metadata values from the old IIM based structure to the Adobe XMP
- * not to create a new set of metadata but something that provides a smooth transition for metadata values from one storage technology to another one.
- * Do some “fine tuning”:
- to emphasise the focus on content description
- to provide comprehensive descriptions to prevent ambiguous use of metadata elements.
- * to create a set of metadata elements primarily for photos – but not exclusively as XMP can be applied to various file types.
- * to review the metadata elements adopted to the “IPTC headers” and to:
 - deprecate elements as deemed necessary
 - add elements as deemed necessary
- * to provide descriptions and a recommended user interface label with each metadata element
- * to provide all prerequisites for “customized panels”

Gunar Penikis gave an in depth introduction to the XMP framework. (Find this presentation as appendix to the minutes)

The Managing Director made a presentation of the draft specification to be accepted as “IPTC Core” XMP Schema, version 1.0:

- a first part covers generic names and identifiers
- a second part specifies an additional XMP Property Value Type
- a third part specifies all the XMP Properties of this XMP Schema.



Finally there are two supplemental documents, one showing the synchronisation between legacy IPTC header and new XMP metadata, the other one showing a comparison chart of the user interface labels as uses by various software vendors.

Then the Managing Director showed the work to be done by the group after approval:

- * cleaning up the specification and creating a standalone specification document
- * creating a user guideline document for end-users
- * creating an implementer guideline document
- * creating customized panels for the IPTC Core
- * rolling out a package with all of the above
- * providing support:
 - user support (create Yahoo forum ?)
 - resource update (spec update, customized panel updates)

MOTION:

That the IPTC4XMP Core 1.0 draft (document IPTC4XMP 0403b) be accepted, and that the working group continue its work.

This motion was proposed by Walter Baranger and seconded by Dean Large.

DISCUSSION:

Chuck Tichenor asked about the usage of the JobId vs. the TransmissionRef of IIM.

It was explained using it as an identifier for job controls is the current practical use, therefore it was named accordingly.

Laurent Le Meur said he already proposed to change to description of this property to allow also the creator to issue/create a job identifier.

It was agreed to delete any reference to the entity issuing the JobId from the description as this is irrelevant to the use.

John Minting said he would like to have added a property to add values from the IPTC Scene-NewsCodes there.

It was agreed to add such a property.

Then it was discussed extensively how to implement a list of values from an IPTC taxonomy (NewsCodes) into the “custom panels” user interface:

- this can be done in technical terms, a widget (a user interface building block) is available which allows to hold a key/value pair, showing the key to the user and storing the value into XMP

- but as this is hardwired into the custom panel file each time the IPTC updates one of the included NewsCodes the whole panel has to be replaced by the e.g. Photoshop user. As Subject-NewsCodes are updated about 4 times a year this would put a burden on the user.

- Gunar Peniks said, Adobe is thinking about an automated update mechanism for the custom panels.

- a tree-like structure as the Subject-NewsCodes can not be presented as tree to the user by the currently available widget.

- Finally it was said, including the 1300+ terms of the Subject-NewsCodes into a panel file would make it a fat file.

Harald Löffler urged to have a field to identify the colour space of the photo.

Gunar Penikis pointed at the EXIF XMP Schema that holds a value for the colour space and this is already filled in by most digital cameras.



The Managing Director said it doesn't make sense to have a second metadata element in parallel – and getting it not synchronised with the EXIF value.

MOTION: the previous motions was amended by Walter Baranger:

1) That the IPTC4XMP Core 1.0 draft (document IPTC4XMP 0403b) be accepted, and that the working group continue its work.

This motion was proposed by Walter Baranger and seconded by Dean Large.

2) That the description of property name JobID is changed to:

"Number or identifier for the purpose of improved workflow handling. This ID should be added by the creator or provider for transmission and routing purposes only and should have no significance for archiving."

3) That the working party includes an XMP property corresponding to the IPTC "Scene" NewsCodes.

This amended motion was seconded by John Minting.

VOTE: This motion was agreed unanimously.

The Chairman thanked Gunar Penikis for the collaboration with the IPTC and for joining the Standards Committee meeting.

The Managing Director said he learned from this joint working group of three bodies "collaboration is possible".

5 Minutes of meeting held on the 27 May 2004 (STA0405)

It was proposed by Dean Large and seconded by Henrik Stadler that the minutes be accepted as circulated. This was agreed unanimously.

6 Matters Arising

6.1 (Business) Requirements document template

The Chairman said he lacked the resources to produce this template document.

6.2 URN namespace for the IPTC

The Managing Director said he heard from IANA a few days ago ID 17 was assigned to the URN namespace of the IPTC.

Therefore he expects the RFC-Editors to create a standard document from the draft soon.

7 Chairman's report

7.1 IPTC standards presentation at Nexpo 2004 (June, Washington, DC)

Geoffrey Haynes reported this was a special session for news agencies and newspapers.

All IPTC standards were introduced to the about 10 participants and our visions for the future were explained. The IPTC was able to support full understanding of what we do.

7.2 IPTC standards presentation at IfraExpo 2004 (11 October, Amsterdam)

Walter Baranger said the same as for Nexpo will be done for the attendees of the IfraExpo next Monday afternoon in a two hour presentation at the main "Newsfloor" stage. There will be an outline of what IPTC does in general and specific introductions to NITF, specialised content standards, NewsML and the NewsCodes.



8 Co-hosting a News Standards Summit 2005/Europe

The Managing Director said a conference call was held last week by the group of co-hosts of the News Standards Summit (NSS) 2003 in Philadelphia, Pa, USA. The purpose was discussing initial thoughts about a News Standard Summit 2005/Europe.

The key issues were:

- date and venue should be in conjunction with the XML Europe 2005 conference, which will be 23-25 May 2005 in Amsterdam, RAI centre. NSS should be for 1 day (only).
- The basic components of the schedule should be the same (standards presentation, user/implementers reports, standards interaction)
- Financial issues: calculation should be the same as for NSS 2003: only to cover the costs
- host: all co-hosts of NSS 2003 should be asked to co-host again.

John Iobst said on behalf of NAA they will not support this event as this is out of their North American scope. On behalf of the IPTC he would support co-hosting the NSS.

Harald Löffler said it should be thoroughly considered which day would be the best. Having the NSS in parallel with the XML conference days (NSS 2003 was in parallel with the tutorial day!) appears daunting to him.

A decent, low cost venue was discussed as well as the conference room at the RAI at 2,800 EUR a day appears to be too expensive, only proposals were made.

MOTION: The IPTC will co-host the News Standards Summit 2005 Europe.

This was proposed by John Iobst and seconded Dean Large.

VOTE: This motion was agreed unanimously.

The IPTC members were asked to:

- support the organizing committee of this event
- to attend the NSS
- to attract other companies to attend.

9 Report from Specialised Content Working Party

Geoffrey Haynes reported:

- the WP saw a presentation of the lasted XML Schema draft for EventsML and discussed this draft
- the inclusion of pieces of other standards into EventsML was discussed
- the EventsML WG will review the AdsML specifications for input to their effort
- the specialised content standards will work on aligning with the Global Metadata Framework

Geoffrey Haynes continued and said an update of SportsML to version 1.5 was presented to the WP, discussed and approved.

MOTION from the WP: To approve the SportsML 1.5 DTD with documentation.

VOTE: This motion was carried by the majority, 1 abstention.

10 Report from NITF Maintenance Working Party

As neither the chairman nor the vice chairmen were present no report was given.

11 Report from NewsML Support Working Party

Laurent Le Meur reported:

- Guidelines for NewsML 1.2 were published last August
- a Business Requirements document draft 15 for NewsML 2 has been circulated and was



discussed at the WP meeting and finally approved.

MOTION from the WP: To approve the Business Requirements for NewsML 2 as circulated in the draft 15 document to make it the Business Requirements specification document version 1.

VOTE: This motion was agreed unanimously.

Laurent Le Meur continued on NewsML 2 and said work was done to create a conceptual model and this will be continued after this meeting. A draft XML Schema is also under consideration, but this work should be supported by external consultants.

MOTION from the WP: The Standards Committee accepts "NewsML 2 Conceptual Model"-draft, dated 16 July 2004, as a draft and recommends that the working party continue work on this document until 15 December 2004.

Further, the Standards Committee asks that the final version of "NewsML 2 Conceptual Model" then be posted on the IPTC web site for further comment by members, and that the document be submitted to the standards committee for a formal vote at a teleconference meeting to be held by 15 January 2005.

VOTE: This motion was agreed unanimously.

Laurent Le Meur said RFC 3085 specifying the URN namespace "newsml" might require an update:

- to make the wording on the provider id and date section unambiguous
- to allow a URN format for referencing all previous versions (= without a revision id)
- to change the wording in a way so other parties beyond the IPTC are allowed to use this URN.

12 Report from News Management Working Party

Stuart Myles reported on the current status of the work on a processing model for NewsML 2. This depends heavily on the conceptual model, but some basic work can be done before a final version of the conceptual model is approved.

He also said the WP should consider creating a processing model for EventsML as well.

13 Report from News Metadata Working Party

John Minting reported:

- Since the last IPTC meeting the Genre-, the Subject- and the SubjectQualifier-NewsCodes were updated.
- The Fast Track Jury approved these Subject-NewsCodes submissions – with minor amendments: NMA0427, NMA0428, NMA0430, NMA0431, and NMA0434.
- An updated French translation of the Subject-NewsCodes was published and work is done on the update of the Spanish translation and the first translation into Arabic by the UPI.
- MOTION from the WP: THE WP PROPOSES THAT THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE APPROVE THE INCLUSION INTO THE SUBJECT CODES OF THE DOCUMENTS NMA 0432 & NMA 0433 AS CIRCULATED.
DISCUSSION: no discussion.
VOTE: This motion was agreed unanimously.
- MOTION from the WP: To change the name of the Working Party to "NewsCodes Working Party".
DISCUSSION: no discussion.
VOTE: This motion was agreed unanimously.



14 Any Other Business

14.1 Reorganising standardization work

The Managing Director reported from an informal discussion brought up the other day: The interdependencies of IPTC standards are high and this is expressed by the “Tower of Standards” view introduced by the Chairman at the last meeting and by starting the Global Metadata Framework initiative. As a result from this e.g. the EventsML group is considering to adopt portions of other IPTC standards to be included into their standard.

Having this in mind it was discussed by this informal group if the current structure of having only working parties for each specific standard aligns with these visionary considerations and proposed to reconsider IPTC working structure in a way to provide at least a “clearing instance” to collect requirements, specifications and processing models of building blocks for standards. The building blocks could be considered in terms of object oriented programming as object with having bound data elements and behaviour to it. To achieve this, changes to the current working and communication structure of the IPTC deemed to be necessary and the Standards Committee appears the right place to discuss this as this committee is responsible to define these structures.

The Chairman asked for further comments from the persons joining this discussion group.

Dean Large said he considers the vision of the “Global standards village/tower” is a victim of its own success – many persons and groups adopted this thinking. But this picture does not tell HOW it could be achieved to move from more or less independent standards to more interlocking standards. And it was felt at this discussion that people want to go into that direction but are not fully aware of what this means to the IPTC. That was the reason to think of the Managing Director to list all the current standards and their building blocks and edges as a start to rationalise this.

Darko Gulija said the “Tower of standards” shows common facilities but it is said nowhere which party have to deal with them – as these structures are out of the scope of the current working parties. He pointed out the big business advantage of having common building block would be that on the level of the processing model and the user interface code and GUI object could be reused.

The Chairman said there are apparently many implications from introducing the “Tower of standards” thinking and the IPTC should start considering its working structure right now. He proposed to bring forward a reorganised working and communication structure at the Spring 2005 Meeting.

Delegates asked at what level this will be discussed, currently only the Working Party chairs are invited to meetings and not the Working Group chairs but the work on developing standards is also done by these WG chairs. Therefore he proposes to invite all the WG chairs to discuss this reorganisation as well.

The Chairman said dealing with these expectations will be a top priority issue for him.

14.2 External consultancy for NewsML 2

The Chairman said there are some specific requirements regarding the expected deliveries of the external consultant for developing NewsML 2.

The Managing Director said to align with the current time line for the NewsML 2 development a requirements document should be available by mid-November.

Laurent Le Meur said as NewsML chairman he will try to deliver it at that time.



15 Date and Place of Next Meeting

3 – 5 March 2005, San Diego, Ca, USA, The Holiday Inn on the Harbour

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