New Work Item Proposal

PROPOSAL FOR A NEW WORK ITEM

Date of presentation of proposal: 2005-12-22	Proposer: KATS (Korean Agency for Technology and Standards)
Secretariat: Standards Council of Canada (SCC)	ISO/IEC JTC 1 N 0699
	ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 34 N

A proposal for a new work item shall be submitted to the secretariat of the ISO/IEC joint technical committee concerned with a copy to the ISO Central Secretariat.

Presentation of the proposal - to be completed by the proposer.

Title

Topic Maps – Compact Syntax

Scope

This proposed standard specifies a compact, text-based notation for representing topic maps.

Purpose and justification

There is a need for a text-based notation for representing topic maps as defined in ISO/IEC 13250:2003. Such a notation would complement the existing XML interchange syntax (XTM), and provide a simple, compact notation for:

- manually authoring topic maps
- providing human-readable examples
- providing a common, lightweight syntax as a basis for TMCL and TMQL

Two text-based notations already exist and have achieved widespread use in the Topic Maps community: the Linear Topic Map Notation (LTM) and AsTMa=. They are principally used for manually authoring topic maps and for providing short, human-readable examples in documents.

However, both of these notations are proprietary. As Topic Maps achieves greater adoption in the wider community, the goals of interchange are better served by having a single, standardized notation. In addition, Topic Maps Constraint Language (ISO 19756) and Topic Maps Query Language (ISO 18048), both of which are currently under development, require a simple text-based notation. By defining CTM at this stage, all of these requirements can be harmonized.

If approved, CTM will become Part 6 of ISO 13250.

Programme of work

If the proposed new work item is approved, which of the following document(s) is (are) expected to be developed?

- _X__ a new part of an existing International Standard (ISO/IEC 13250:2003)
- more than one International Standard (expected number:)
- _____a multi-part International Standard consisting of parts
- _____ an amendment or amendments to the following International Standard(s)
-
- ____ a technical report , type

And which standard development track is recommended for the approved new work item?

- ____a. Default Timeframe
- ____b. Accelerated Timeframe
- ____c. Extended Timeframe

Relevant documents to be considered

The Linear Topic Map Notation: Definition and introduction (http://www.ontopia.net/download/ltm.html)

AsTMa= Language Definition (http://astma.it.bond.edu.au/astma=-spec-xtm.dbk)

ISO/IEC 13250-2 Topic Maps – Data Model

Co-operation and liaison

None

Preparatory work offered with target date(s)

Draft requirements

Signature:

Will the service of a maintenance agency or registration authority be required? No - If yes, have you identified a potential candidate?

- If yes, indicate name

Are there any known requirements for coding? No

-If yes, please specify on a separate page

Does the proposed standard concern known patented items? No - If yes, please provide full information in an annex

Comments and recommendations of the JTC 1 or SC 34 Secretariat - attach a separate page as an annex, if necessary

Comments with respect to the proposal in general, and recommendations thereon: It is proposed to assign this new item to JTC 1/SC 34

Voting on the proposal - Each P-member of the ISO/IEC joint technical committee has an obligation to vote within the time limits laid down (normally three months after the date of circulation).

Date of circulation:	Closing date for voting:	Signature of Secretary:
2005-12-22	2006-03-22	G. Ken Holman

NEW WORK ITEM PROPOSAL - PROJECT ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA		
Criterion	Validity	Explanation
A. Business Requirement		
A.1 Market Requirement	Essential X Desirable Supportive	Users of ISO 13250 require a syntax that is more suitable for hand-editing and providing examples than the XML interchange syntax.
A.2 Regulatory Context	Essential Desirable Supportive Not Relevant X	
B. Related Work		
B.1 Completion/Maintenance of current standards	Yes X No	CTM will provide part of the machinery necessary to complete ISO 18048 and ISO 19756.
B.2 Commitment to other organisation	Yes No_X	
B.3 Other Source of standards	Yes No X	
C. Technical Status		
C.1 Mature Technology	Yes X No	Considerable experience has been gained through the use of LTM and AsTMa= over a period of five years.
C.2 Prospective Technology	Yes No X	
C.3 Models/Tools	Yes No X	

D. Conformity Assessment and Interoperability		
D.1 Conformity Assessment	Yes X No	The standard will have a conformance clause that covers conforming CTM documents and conforming CTM processors.
D.2 Interoperability	Yes X No	The standard will have a clause defining how to deserialize CTM documents in to models that conform to ISO 13250-2 (Topic Maps Data Model).
E. Cultural and Linguistic Adaptability	Yes X No	It is a requirement that CTM will support multiple languages and the Unicode character encoding. This will be achieved in the project by ensuring that CTM supports every aspect of the Topic Maps Data Model.
F. Other Justification		

Notes to Proforma

A. Business Relevance. That which identifies market place relevance in terms of what problem is being solved and or need being addressed.

A.1 Market Requirement. When submitting a NP, the proposer shall identify the nature of the Market Requirement, assessing the extent to which it is essential, desirable or merely supportive of some other project.

A.2 Technical Regulation. If a Regulatory requirement is deemed to exist - e.g. for an area of public concern e.g. Information Security, Data protection, potentially leading to regulatory/public interest action based on the use of this voluntary international standard - the proposer shall identify this here.

B. Related Work. Aspects of the relationship of this NP to other areas of standardisation work shall be identified in this section.

B.1 Competition/Maintenance. If this NP is concerned with completing or maintaining existing standards, those concerned shall be identified here.

B.2 External Commitment. Groups, bodies, or fora external to JTC 1 to which a commitment has been made by JTC for Co-operation and or collaboration on this NP shall be identified here.

B.3 External Std/Specification. If other activities creating standards or specifications in this topic area are known to exist or be planned, and which might be available to JTC 1 as PAS, they shall be identified here.

C. Technical Status. The proposer shall indicate here an assessment of the extent to which the proposed standard is supported by current technology.

C.1 Mature Technology. Indicate here the extent to which the technology is reasonably stable and ripe for standardisation.

C.2 Prospective Technology. If the NP is anticipatory in nature based on expected or forecasted need, this shall be indicated here.

C.3 Models/Tools. If the NP relates to the creation of supportive reference models or tools, this shall be indicated here.

D. Conformity Assessment and Interoperability

D.1 Indicate here if Conformity Assessment is relevant to your project. If so, indicate how it is addressed in your project plan.

D.2 Indicate here if Interoperability is relevant to your project. If so, indicate how it is addressed in your project plan

E. Cultural and Linguistic Adaptability Indicate here if cultural and linguistic adaptability is applicable to your project. If so, indicate how it is addressed in your project plan.

F. Other Justification Any other aspects of background information justifying this NP shall be indicated here