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ISO/IEC JTC 1/SGFS
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Standardization

Secretariat: NNI (Netherlands)

Title : French comments on WDTR 10000-1.3 (SGFS N442)

Source : AFNOR

Status : For discussion during the SGFS Plenary Meeting,
June 15-19, Washington D.C., USA

Note :

TITLE : Preliminary comments on TR 10000-1.3 First Working Draft

SOURCE : AFNOR

AFNOR is not in a position to meet the requested deadline of March 31st with detailed comments on this working draft. However AFNOR provides preliminary comments below and indicates its support for this item of work.

Comment 1 . General :

AFNOR favours the extension of TR 10000 Taxonomy outside of OSI. As explained in a more detailed fashion later, rather than making a difference between OSI and non-OSI profiles (what is called at the moment AEPs in TR 10000-1.3), we suggest to consider 3 categories of profiles :

- . functional profiles : those which perform a function, of which OSI profiles are a subgroup
- . generic OSE profiles : those which describe a complete environment (hopefully a small numbers of these)
- . industry specific OSE profiles (n subgroups, for Libraries, Medical, etc...).

The Taxonomy should then be restructured accordingly.

This would impact substantially the draft document and we are not in a position to propose complete rewriting. However, should the basic principles of this structure be accepted, AFNOR will offer to contribute to the redrafting during the SGFS meeting.

Here is a more detailed explanation for the new structure :

The first working draft of TR 10000-1.3 introduces several kinds of profiles to extend the scope of profiling activities beyond OSI :

- . OSI profiles : already covered by on going works
- . AEPs : new profiles introduced to deal with application portability
- . other profiles : not well defined yet.

We need a general framework defining the relationship between OSI profiles, AEPs and other profiles. The following proposal adopts a top down approach as proposed by the TSG-1 Report. Three main types of profiles are described and the current work on OSI is then identified.

1. FUNCTIONAL PROFILES

In this case, a profile is "a set of one or more base standards, and, where applicable, the identification of chosen classes, subsets, options and parameters of those base standards, necessary for accomplishing a particular FUNCTION ".

This leads to functional building blocks : Transport or File Transfer in OSI, but also System or Graphical User Interface.

In this case, it is better to define an extension of the concept of OSI profiles rather than OSI profiles and ... the rest called AEPs.

To extend the scope to other functional standards, we have to take into account :

- . other types of base standards than protocols : APIs, Formats, Look and Feel (see EWOS EG CAE ETG 12 on OSE profiling)
- . other types of domains than Communication : User Interface, System/Process, Information Handling (see TSG-1 Report).

A global Taxonomy extended from the TR 10000-2 may describe other functional building blocks such as APIs for Information Handling (e.g. Query Language) or Formats for User Interface (e.g. Graphic metafiles).

2. GENERIC OSE PROFILES

A set of functional profiles and base standards necessary to define a particular ENVIRONMENT.

This is close to the concept of functional standards described in the last paragraph, but there are some major differences :

- . the Taxonomy is based not on a classification of functional building blocks, but on a list of environments (e.g. Desktop, Transaction processing, DBMS server, ...)
- . the number of generic environments must remain small (EWOS proposal for an OSE Taxonomy leads to 10 to 20 environments)
- . each environment must be based on existing functional standards with, as much as possible, common parts (a base environment) to guarantee a level of portability and interoperability between the different environments.

This is a new type of profile and some work is done within OIW and EWOS.

3. INDUSTRY SPECIFIC OSE PROFILES

A set of generic OSE profiles with specific extensions necessary to deal with specific industry requirements.

There is a lot of activity in defining specific environments profiles (CIM, petrol with POSC, Public Procurement, ...). There is a large set of possible specific industry OSE profiles. Each of them describes one or several generic OSE profiles with specific extensions (such as EDIs or dictionary, ...).

It is of great importance that industry specific OSE profiles are based on the few set of generic OSE profiles to guarantee a level of portability and interoperability between different specific environments.

Defining industry specific OSE profiles is out of the scope of JTC1 but SGFS may provide the method and the generic OSE profiles as a basis for industry specific OSE profiling activity.

CONCLUSION

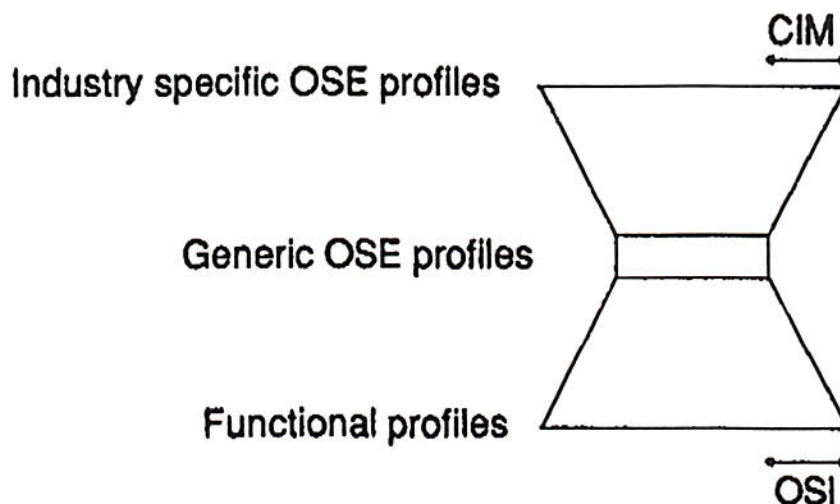


Figure : Different types of profiles

The 3 types of profiles lead to 3 Taxonomies :

- . Functional standards taxonomy (new TR 10000-2) as an extension of the OSI Taxonomy
- . Generic OSE Taxonomy (TR 10000-3 ?) with a few set of environments
- . Industry Specific OSE Taxonomy (out of the scope of SGFS) : this is more or less the list of industries.

The TR 10000-1 Framework is well adapted to extend the functional standardisation beyond the scope of OSI. It has to be improved by taking into account the other types of profiles.

Comment 2 . Definitions :

Reference : clause 3.1

Definitions of portability and interoperability should be added. AFNOR suggests that

- . the definition of portability be taken from the EWOS EG-CAE/92/04 document (definition derived from that in the TSG-1 Report)
- . the definition of interoperability be taken from the TSG-1 Report.

Comment 3 . Informative and non-normative :

Reference : clause 6.1.3

To insert in clause 6.1.3 :

Note : The terms "informative" and "non-normative" are equivalent in this context.

Comment 4 . Missing functionality in a profile :

Reference : clause 6.1.3 b)

To replace lines 52-55 by : "consider the profile for which elements are missing as a profile for which a place holder remains in the taxonomy for future use, while a new profile would be inserted in the taxonomy. The scope of this new profile would be an explicitly stated restriction on the scope of the initial profile".

Comment 5 . Editorial :

Reference : page 11, line 20
6.3.2 should be read 6.4.2.