Title : Liaison Statement to all S-Liaison organizations on the structure of Profile Identifiers in the Taxonomy

Source : ISO/IEC JTC1/SGFS

Status : Output of SGFS Authorized Subgroup Meeting, December 1992, London

Note :

Date: December 11, 1992

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            structure of Profile Identifiers in the Taxonomy

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In response to (N738) - Request for guidance on Taxonomy
Identifiers - from RWNMCC.

SGFS is of the opinion that, on this subject, there is only one
significant issue of principle on which it can make a statement: all
profiles shall have unambiguous identifiers.

SGFS has also stated in TR 10000-2 clause 4.1 that the identifer
shall have "as many ... digits as are necessary to reflect its
position within the hierarchic structure of the class". This leaves
it open to the proposer of each class/subclass of the taxonomy to
define the number and sequence of elements of the identifier. There
are no further rules about the number of digits in each element.

SGFS would advise that separators should not be used in the
"standard" format of Profile identifiers. "Dot" is already used in
the structure of Relay profile identifiers; "space" can easily become
lost or confused in use; retrospective changes to other identifier
structures in the Taxonomy should be avoided. (However, when
explaining taxonomy structures or relationships between profiles, the
format with "space" can be used for clarification - as in TR 10000-2
for instance)

In the context of the example given in (L9), therefore, there shall
only be one "AOM2111" profile. The proposers of extensions to the
taxonomy shall take due care to construct the taxonomy such that the
suggested clash between AOM2 1 11 and AOM2 11 1 cannot occur - either
by not using "11" as the second element, or by using two (or more)
digits for the third element - e.g. AOM2 11 01, or by opening up a
further subclass AOM3xxx which has the same significance as AOM2xxx.

SGFS will propose a small change to TR 10000-1 clause 7 to record the
main principle that such identifiers have to be unambiguous.