

Network Working Group
Request for Comments: 3121
Category: Informational

K. Best
OASIS, Inc.
N. Walsh
Sun Microsystems, Inc.
June 2001

A URN Namespace for OASIS

Status of this Memo

This memo provides information for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

Copyright Notice

Copyright (C) The Internet Society (2001). All Rights Reserved.

Abstract

This document describes a URN (Uniform Resource Name) namespace that is engineered by the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) for naming persistent resources published by OASIS (such as OASIS Standards, XML (Extensible Markup Language) Document Type Definitions, XML Schemas, Namespaces, Stylesheets, and other documents).

1. Introduction

The Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) produces many kinds of documents: specifications, working drafts, technical resolutions, schemas, stylesheets, etc.

OASIS wishes to provide global, distributed, persistent, location-independent names for these resources.

The Extensible Markup Language (XML) requires that all resources provide a system identifier, which must be a URI, in addition to an optional public identifier (which provides an alternate mechanism for constructing identifiers) and many evolving specifications require authors to identify documents by URI alone (XML Namespaces, XML Schema, XSLT, etc.).

Motivated by these observations, OASIS would like to assign URNs to some resources in order to retain unique, permanent location-independent names for them.

This namespace specification is for a formal namespace.

2. Specification Template

Namespace ID:

"oasis" requested.

Registration Information:

Registration Version Number: 3

Registration Date: 2001-02-05

Declared registrant of the namespace:

Karl Best
OASIS - Organization for the Advancement of Structured
Information Standards
Post Office Box 455
Billerica, MA USA 01821

Phone: +1 (978) 667 5115

Declaration of structure:

The Namespace Specific String (NSS) of all URNs assigned by OASIS will have the following hierarchical structure:

There are two branches at the top of the hierarchy: "names" and "member".

The Names Hierarchy

The NSS in the names hierarchy begins with a document class identifier. There are three classes of identifiers:

"specification", "tc", and "technical".

Specifications

The "specification" hierarchy is for OASIS Specifications. The general structure of the NSS in the specification hierarchy has the form:

```
urn:oasis:names:specification:{specification-id}
      :{type}{:subtype}?:{document-id}
```

where "specification-id" is a unique identifier for the specification, "type" identifies the document type (document, schema, stylesheet, entity, xmlns, etc.), the optional "subtype" provides additional information about the document type (for example, stylesheet or schema language), and "document-id" is a unique identifier for the document.

The Director of Technical Operations at OASIS assigns document types, subtypes, and all unique identifiers.

Technical Committee Work Products

The "tc" hierarchy is for work products of OASIS Technical Committees. The general structure of the NSS in the tc hierarchy has the form:

```
urn:oasis:names:tc:{tc-id}:{type}{:subtype}?:{document-id}
```

where "tc-id" is a unique identifier for the Technical Committee, and the remaining fields are assigned as per the specification hierarchy.

Technical Papers

The "technical" hierarchy identifies legacy documents (Technical Notes, Resolutions, Memoranda, and Research Papers). The general structure of the NSS in the "technical" hierarchies has the form:

```
urn:oasis:names:technical:{document-type}
      :{document-id}:{amendment-id}
```

The document type is one of the following: "note", "resolution", "memorandum", or "researchpaper".

The document and amendment identifiers are derived from the legacy system for naming these documents. The document identifier consists of a two digit year and a sequential number, the amendment identifier is the year of the amendment.

The Members Hierarchy

The NSS in the members hierarchy begins with a unique member identifier assigned by OASIS. The string following the member identifier is opaque. For example:

```
urn:oasis:member:A00024:x
```

The member identifiers will be assigned by The Director of Technical Operations at OASIS. The opaque string is defined by the owner of the branch that begins with "urn:oasis:member:{member-id}:".

Relevant ancillary documentation:

None

Identifier uniqueness considerations:

Identifier uniqueness will be enforced by the Director of Technical Operations who assigns unique identifiers to all documents identified by URN.

Identifier persistence considerations:

OASIS is committed to maintaining the accessibility and persistence of all the resources that are assigned URNs.

Process of identifier assignment:

Assignment is limited to the owner and those authorities that are specifically designated by the owner. OASIS will assign portions of its namespace (specifically, those under the members hierarchy) for assignment by other parties.

Process of identifier resolution:

The owner will distribute catalogs (OASIS TR9401 Catalogs) that map the assigned URNs to resource identifiers (e.g., URLs). A more interactive, online resolution system will also be deployed in the near future.

The owner will authorize additional resolution services as appropriate.

Rules for Lexical Equivalence:

URNs are lexically equivalent if they are lexically identical.

Conformance with URN Syntax:

No special considerations.

Validation mechanism:

None specified. The owner will publish OASIS TR9401 Catalogs. The presence of a URN in a catalog indicates that it is valid.

Scope:

Global

3. Examples

The following examples are not guaranteed to be real. They are listed for pedagogical reasons only.

```
urn:oasis:names:specification:docbook:dtd:xml:4.1.2
urn:oasis:names:tc:docbook:dtd:xml:docbook:5.0b1
urn:oasis:names:technical:memo:9502:1995
urn:oasis:member:A00024:x
```

4. Security Considerations

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

References

- [1] Goldfarb, C. F., "ISO (International Organization for Standardization) ISO 8879:1986(E) Information Processing -- Text and Office Systems -- Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML)", 1986.
- [2] W3C, XML WG, "Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0", February 1998, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml>>.
- [3] W3C, Namespaces WG, "Namespaces in XML", January 1999, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml-names>>.
- [4] OASIS, Entity Mgmt. TC, "Entity Management: OASIS Technical Resolution 9401:1997 (Amendment 2 to TR 9401)", January 1994, <<http://www.oasis-open.org/html/a401.htm>>.
- [5] Moats, R., "URN Syntax", RFC 2141, May 1997.
- [6] Mealling, M. and R. Daniel, "URI Resolution Services Necessary for URN Resolution", RFC 2483, January 1999.

Authors' Addresses

Karl Best
OASIS, Inc.
P.O. Box 455
Billerica, MA 01821
US

E-Mail: karl.best@oasis-open.org

Norman Walsh
Sun Microsystems, Inc.
One Network Drive
MS UBUR02-201
Burlington, MA 01803-0902
US

E-Mail: Norman.Walsh@East.Sun.COM

Full Copyright Statement

Copyright (C) The Internet Society (2001). All Rights Reserved.

This document and translations of it may be copied and furnished to others, and derivative works that comment on or otherwise explain it or assist in its implementation may be prepared, copied, published and distributed, in whole or in part, without restriction of any kind, provided that the above copyright notice and this paragraph are included on all such copies and derivative works. However, this document itself may not be modified in any way, such as by removing the copyright notice or references to the Internet Society or other Internet organizations, except as needed for the purpose of developing Internet standards in which case the procedures for copyrights defined in the Internet Standards process must be followed, or as required to translate it into languages other than English.

The limited permissions granted above are perpetual and will not be revoked by the Internet Society or its successors or assigns.

This document and the information contained herein is provided on an "AS IS" basis and THE INTERNET SOCIETY AND THE INTERNET ENGINEERING TASK FORCE DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY THAT THE USE OF THE INFORMATION HEREIN WILL NOT INFRINGE ANY RIGHTS OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Acknowledgement

Funding for the RFC Editor function is currently provided by the Internet Society.