

**WS/eCAT project on
“Classification and catalogue systems
for public and private procurement”
(CC3P)**

**Terms of Reference
for the CC3P Project
(version 3)**

Date: 23 September 2009

Status: endorsed¹

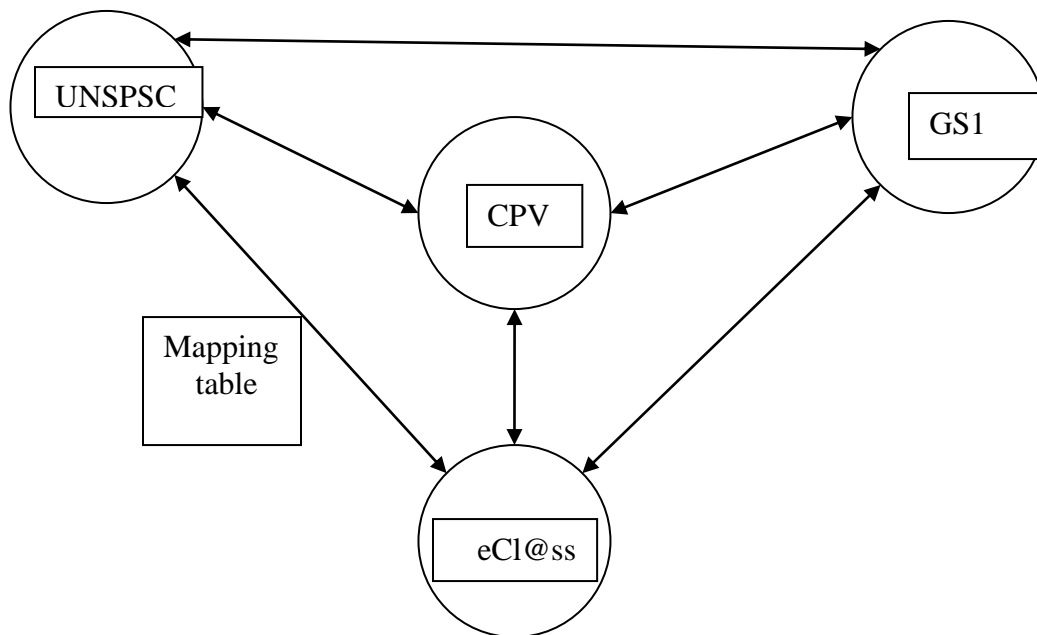
¹ The Terms of Reference were approved at the CC3P project kick-off meeting on 3rd April 2009. A revised version with a few changes (timescale and appointment vice-Chair) was approved at the CC3P meeting on 23 September 2009.

1. Title

Project title is "Classification and catalogue systems for public and private procurement" (CC3P) to be carried out within the framework of Workshop eCAT 'Multilingual eCataloguing and eClassification in eBusiness'.

2. Background to the CEN project

There are four main classifications used in the market in Europe:



- the CPV, used for all transactions in the public domain (as defined in EC regulation n°2195/2002 and update in November 2007)
- three private sector classifications named eCI@ss, GPC and UNSPSC

There are at present three mapping tools, one from GS1-US (managing also UNSPSC), one from IfCC (Germany) and one from GS1 Europe. These tools exist, but it works for the time being between UNSPSC and GPC for the GS1-US tool, and between UNSPSC and eCI@ss for the IfCC tool. There is no existing mapping table today between CPV and GPC, UNSPSC or eCI@ss (see graph).

These mapping tools, particularly the GS1-US, have used a lot of time and effort to be developed, as they are able to propose a reliable transposition of codes between classifications of very different data models like UNSPSC, GPC, eCI@ss or CPV. Many mappings (up to 85%) are of the m to n type, between classes that are of very different granularity.

Companies that have developed the mappings have the problem to ensure in the future the maintenance of these maps, between different versions of classification couples, to receive some return on investment on the consequent work to develop the tools.

No definite business model is yet established by any of these organizations, but a general trend seems to come out, to allow members (that pay their membership) to receive free of charge the mapping tables. No policy is established yet for non-member users.

In the USA, the mapping maintenance could be supported, in the near future, by a governmental authority, with the consequence of the maps being for internal use only. The US government authorities have in fact recognised the need for interoperability between CPV, HS and commercial classifications.

GS1, UNSPSC and IfCC, which are among the proposers, have agreed to discuss their policy regarding the business model for the mapping tool in the CEN Workshop with all participants, including eventual observers from the European Commission.

Since 2003, the EU Commission, through CEN, has supported activities in the field of the product catalogues, which is the basic “skeleton” of the supply chain within industry both large and SMEs.

Under the CEN/ISSS Workshop eCAT (Multilingual electronic catalogues and product classification) three different projects took place, one on catalogues and the other two on product classification. The following CWAs were produced: 15045:2004, 15294 and 15295:2005, 15556: 2006 (3 parts). These CWAs were input into ISO for the development of the following international standards (still in the approval process): ISO/NP 29002, Onto-ML and ISO/ NP 22274. CEN/ISSS Workshop eCAT experts contributed to the studies on electronic public procurement carried out on behalf of the European Commission Internal Market Directorate General.

CEN/ISSS Focus Group on Interoperability of computer sensitive product dictionaries and classification systems (FG/CDC) supports and improves the understanding, information flow and progress on computer-sensitive product dictionary standards issues, with specific reference to interoperability.

With regards to eCI@ss and GPC, automotive light parts and Household White Goods (electro-domestic appliances) have already been harmonized. A third sector, Meat and Poultry, is completed with GS1 and nearly completed with eCI@ss; work is done in collaboration with the US Department of Agriculture.

In the field of catalogues, activities are ongoing in ISO, UN/CEFACT, European Commission Internal Market Directorate General, NATO and in some industry domains, for example BMECat, e-marketplaces, PFI/eC@t-npmi.

This shows that activities are burgeoning; however, developments are happening in a rather anarchic way, many organisations build their own incompatible system. It is therefore very important to inter-relate all these initiatives. It seems also highly recommendable that some information and coordination activity occur between the public and private sectors to avoid non-interoperable classifications and catalogues systems.

Market impact

Big savings will also result within companies as they will have less costs for maintenance at the level of their classification and catalogue systems. For example, the Association for French Maintenance Industry (AFIM) estimated a loss of 7 billion € (or 0,4% of the GDP) just for France if harmonization of the Product Chain and common cataloguing is not accomplished.

The proposal is supported by the main classification organizations in Europe and supported by industry. The need of such a project has been recognized in the Study in electronic catalogues carried out on behalf of the European Commission Internal Market and Services Directorate General.

However, it has to be taken into account that standards adoption and coherent data chains being implemented in companies are long-term processes. Therefore, benefits from this harmonization activity will be fully achieved only in four-five years.

3. Project proposers and participants

The project is proposed by IfCC, eCI@ss, GS1, UNSPSC, AFIM.

Participants of the CEN/ISSS Workshop eCAT and Focus Group CDC (interoperability of electronic catalogue and classification) will be invited to join. The project is open with any company/organization with an interest in following the topic.

4. Project objectives and deliverables

The project main objectives are to analyse CPV, eCI@ss, GPC and UNSPSC and to propose a plan to improve interoperability between the CPV and the three market oriented classifications (CPV, eCI@ss and GPC).

The assessment will address five areas food, electronics, energy (electricity, gas), furniture and laboratory materials (equipment and products). Cloths will be also analysed by experts. The assessment and further focussing will be made in collaboration with the PEPPOL project.

Harmonization will be based both on mapping and, whenever possible, harmonisation of the four hierarchies. Harmonisation will be applied on the fourth level (when it exists) of the four main classifications. When harmonisation is not possible because of data model inconsistencies, mapping will be done by using a mapping tool.

Areas of improvement in the CPV will be identified and proposed to the European Commission.

The Workshop will also try to identify and develop missing domains in eCI@ss and GS1/GPC in relation with UNSPSC (which is complete) at the level of products and properties.

A brief insight into the NATO classification system and the eOTD dictionary will be given for sake of completeness

The mapping tool –mentioned here upon - is developed by software providers for classification organisations. The development of mapping tools is not part of the activities of this Workshop. Software tools should be provided free of charge to the Workshop Project Team to carry out their analysis and made available on the market at a reasonable fee.

The CWA will contain:

- a study on similarities and differences between the 4 main existing product classifications in Europe and proposed harmonisation and mapping methodologies;
- to develop a list of identified missing domains in CPV, eCI@ss and GS1/GPC in relation with existing sectors in UNSPSC and, when time permits, its application to some chosen sectors;
- recommendations on the use of classifications and mapping in e-catalogues.
- description on how to use the mapping tools that will be developed by software providers so as to increase the interoperability between all four classifications.
- Recommendations on a coherent product chain and its associated business processes (properties, product description, dictionaries, classifications and catalogues), for the public and private sectors altogether.
- Identification of areas of improvement in the CPV (internal structures of the existing divisions, description, etc.).

The mapping tools will not be part of the CWA.

The CWA will be submitted to ISO and/or UN/CEFACT to become part of an International Standard.

The Workshop will also organize two informative seminars to raise awareness of standards and interoperability issues on the use of electronic catalogues and classifications.

Deliverables:

- **Interim Report** consisting of draft CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) (September 2009)
- **Final Report** with final text of the CWA plus a report on promotional activities (April 2010).

5. Project programme

The CC3P project was launched in April 2009 within CEN/ISSS Workshop eCAT with a proposed duration of 12 months.

A detailed timetable is contained in the table below:

Activity	Milestone	Who	When
Launch project and call for experts	WS eCat 11th plenary meeting	CEN	Brussels, 3 rd April 2009
Experts selection and start analysis phase		Chair, Secretary, CEN PM	May 2009
Analysis phase	WS/eCAT ePPS and FG CDC seminar, Paris 4-5 June	PT	June-July 2009
First draft CWA containing the analysis and recommendations for improvements of the different classifications		PT	August 2009
Comments on the first draft CWA	12th Workshop eCAT plenary meeting (CC3P) Brussels, 23 September	WS members	September 2009
Second draft CWA containing the analysis and recommendation for improvements of the different classifications – to be submitted as interim report to EC		PT	End September 2009
Third draft CWA Including mapping and where possible harmonization plus policy agreement with providers on conditions for use of the mapping	eCAT/ePPS Conference, Rotterdam 11 November	PT	Nov/Dec 2009
Public comment period	1 st seminar, Cologne 25 Jan	all	Jan- Feb 2010
Final draft CWA including all comments received	2 nd seminar	PT	March 2010
CWA endorsement and WS closure	13 th Workshop eCAT plenary meeting (CC3P)	WS members	April 2010

6. Project structure and resources

The project will report to Workshop eCAT, but will have a dedicated Secretary, a dedicated project Team composed by four experts, one of the four experts will act as Project Leader.

The project leader main tasks are:

- To represent the project at the Workshop plenary meetings;
- To ensure that the project delivers in line with its timescale
- To manage the consensus building process

AFNOR, the French standardization body, will carry out the Secretariat functions. The Project Team will be selected following an open call for experts launched in February 2009.

The Secretariat and the Project Team are supported by EU/EFTA funding. A total of 150 man/days are available, provided that the Workshop attracts sufficient participation.

The project will liaise with the PEPPOL project².

7. Contact points

- **Workshop Chair**

Dr. Christian Galinski

Infoterm Infoterm - International Information Centre for Terminology

Mariahilfer Strasse 123/3

A-1060 Vienna – Austria

Tel: +43-664-344 6178

c.galinski@infoterm.org

- **Workshop vice Chair and Project team leader**

Ms Aurélie Virgili

Consultant

Tel. +32 473 782354

Aurelie.virgili@yahoo.fr

- **Project Secretary**

Mr Tony Hittema

AFNOR

11, rue Francis de Pressens

F-93571 Saint-Denis La Plaine Cedex (Paris)

Tel. +33 1 41628395

Tony.hittema@afnor.fr

- **CEN Programme Manager**

Ms. Barbara Gatti

CEN Innovation and Business Development

Avenue Marnix 17

B-1000 Brussels

² www.peppol.eu

Tel. +32 2 5500834
Barbara.gatti@cen.eu