

Notes from Wuhan Study Period meeting on
Registry of Registry (ROR)
On-Demand Model Selection (ODMS),
Procedure for the Specification of Ontology (PSO), &
SQL/MM Part 8 - Metadata Registry (SQL/MM-8 MDR)
Wuhan University, August 21 & 22, 2009

This report tries to capture items on which the participants agreed. It does not capture the discussion. The gist of the discussions can be obtained by looking at the presentations, which are on a web site for the meeting and will also be placed on the WG 2 website.

1. Participants

China:

Keqing He

Yangfan He

Chong Wang

Jian Wang

Lu Li

Chi Zhang

Japan:

Hajime Horiuchi

Okabe Masao

Tatsumi Adachi

U.S:

Bruce Bargmeyer

Korea:

Dongwon Jeong

Jangwon Kim

Jeong-Dong Kim

2. Discussion on the scope and objectives of MFI family

We discussed the scope and objectives of the MFI family of standards.

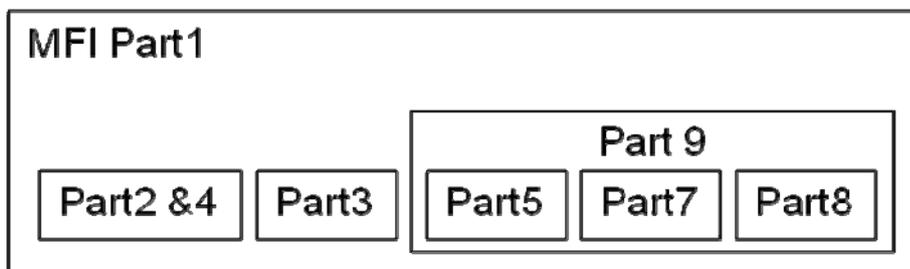
Horiuchi-san gave a presentation about the history of MFI. The 19763 family of standards is now almost a decade old. It has evolved considerably during that time. It started out to be about the registration of business objects, but this name met resistance from SC 32/WG 1. The name for a while was Framework for Metamodel Interoperability and then became Metamodel Framework for Interoperability. We looked at the scope and interrelation of the individual parts.

We discussed the document sent by Keith Gordon, WG2_N1293 as well as the document forwarded by Baba Piprani (ROS – Nxxx). The documents raise questions about the scope and objectives of MFI as well as the interrelations/dependencies between the parts.

What becomes clear is that MFI Part 1 needs to be revised as the scope and objectives have evolved. We agreed that a new Part 1 reference model needs to be written to better describe the scope of the family of standards and introduce the individual parts.

We noted that some of Keith's and Baba's documents were about MFI Part 2, which was not a central part of this meeting. The editor of Part 2 was not at the meeting.

The group is considering the possibility of reducing the dependencies between the parts of 19763, dependence on Part 2, in particular. Here is a possible picture of the reference model:



The issue of interoperability was raised by both Keith and Baba. The group feels that 19763 is addressing interoperability beyond data, to include processes and services. However, it is not intended to expand the scope to standardize a metamodel or separate metamodels for every known data and processing methodology/notation. This is thought to be not achievable as is pointed out by Keith and Baba. Instead, for example, we are specifying how to register selected content that may be found in process models and then manage that within the context of 19763. This is not an attempt to exhaustively register everything found in every model methodology/notation. Whew.

3. Discussion on RGPS (MFI part 8 & 9)

See the presentations on these topics. The group recognized the objectives of RGPS and found that substantial progress has been made. We discussed many details of these projects. These will ultimately change some of the material in the presentations.

4. Discussion on MFI Part 5 and MFI Part 7

See the presentations on these topics. The group recognized the objectives of these parts and found that substantial progress has been made. We discussed many details of these projects.

These will ultimately change some of the material in the presentations. To complete the effort, we should invite industrial consortia to review and comment on our drafts.

5. Discussion on ROR & Registry Service

This is a study period underway. We heard a presentation titled “Introduction of Registry Service Integration Architecture (RSIA)” This could be part of ROR. (See presentations.)

We need more development of details and specification of potential content for a standard in order to determine how to proceed on this standard. Clarify the standard requirement by meeting in Kunming, China, May 2010. This standard would require coordination with OMG, OASIS, and other standards bodies.

We also explored the relation of ROR to MFI Part 7. Work is underway on developing a draft of that proposed standard.

6. Discussion on PSO & SQL/MM-8 MDR

It is recognized that the SQL/MM-8 MDR project is not in “study period” status. It was included for purposes of coordination with the study period topics.

A presentation on SQL/MM-8 MDR project was given, which showed much progress on this project. See the presentation. We made some comments on how to proceed.

The PSO Technical Report is intended to be guidance for building an ontology based on content of an MDR.

We discussed the presentation and made suggestions for several changes.

We discussed the position paper sent by Canada, Document WG2_N1291. We came up with the following outcomes:

Canada comment: Canada requests that the proposed work on Web Ontology Specification first consider the ongoing work on 11179-3 Edition 3 and 19763-3 Edition 2. If there is material that merits standardization, WG2 should first look at positioning the material in one of these existing projects.

20943-6 developers: This is agreed. There is some concern that both are moving targets, however any procedures that are developed by this Technical Report should be consistent with the

specifications in 11179-3 (E3) and 19763-3 (E2). Note that this would expand the scope and work required, so the developers need to study the impact of this outcome.

Canada Comment: If the material is still only intended to be a Technical Report, the TR can be organized into clauses along the lines suggested for the three parts.

20943-6 developers: Yes, the use of the word “Part” was inadvertent. The intention is to create Clauses within a single Part (20943-6).

Canada comment: The term ‘Web Ontology’ is not meaningful. What makes an Ontology a ‘Web’ Ontology?

20943-6 developers: The intention is to use a URI for all concepts, relations, etc. in the ontology. This is what is meant by “Web Ontology”. However, if the use of “Web Ontology” is confusing to WG 2 then the word “Web” will be dropped.

Canada comment: ‘Ontology Specification’ on its own is too broad and needs to be qualified to reflect the scope of the standard.

20943-6 developers: OK. We will use the words build, guidance, etc. and try to avoid the words specification and standard as they relate to this document.

Canada Comment: Since the proposal deals with specifying Ontologies based on MDR, we suggest this should be reflected in the project title.

20943-6 developers: OK. the group suggests a name such as: Guidance for Building Ontologies based on 11179-3 MDR and 19763-3 MFI

7. Discussion on MFI-6

We saw and discussed the presentation. (See presentation.) We are interested in progressing this work and trying to align it as closely as possible with 11179-6. We believe that much of these two standards will be the same, with some material that is particular to MFI in this standard. We confirmed that the approach being taken is good.

8. Discussion on MDR & MFI harmonization

The group agreed that it is highly desirable to continue and increase our efforts to harmonize MDR & MFI. Issues:

- What is sharable between 11179-3 and 19763-3? (E.g., Identification, naming, administrative clauses)
- Align specifications between MDR & MFI

- Is it possible to define a new part as independent standard? (When: the end of 11179-3 ed.3) New 11179-5+ Align specifications between MDR & MFI for example, as we are trying to do with 11179-3 & 19763-3.
- Keep consistency on the terminology & definitions. Actions: to look for area between the two standards where we need work on alignment. For example, as we are trying to do with 11179-6 & 19763-6.
- We should also align 20943-6 (Procedure for the specification of Web ontology). Should cover both 11179-3 & 19763-3
- A new edition of 11179-5(Naming & Identification) should be possible after completing 11179-3 Ed3.
- We should consider the possibility of aligning a new MDR-5 between MFI & MDR. Also Registration Procedure (Part 6) of 11179 & 19763
- For Edition 4 of 11179-3 and Edition 3 of 19763-3, we see a possibility of including 19763-3 as a part of the 11179 family, e.g., Part 9. It could also be considered to combine the two standards, but it may be useful to have them as separate parts. It is noted that 19763-3 and 11179-3 are closely related and thus inclusion in the same family of standards is worth considering.
- Another possibility is to have 19763 and 11179 share Parts 5 (naming, identification) and Part 6 (Registration) including the relevant clauses (& UML packages) in 11179-3. E.g., 19763 could normatively reference 11179 Parts 5 & 6 as well as the related clauses (&UML packages) in 11179-3

9. Discussion on MFI Part1 Ed2

The editor agreed that a draft revised document, which takes discussions above into account, will be prepared to be submitted to the coming London meeting.