

European Media Wrapper Round Table II

PARIS, October 25th 2007 (at TV5)

Comments on the report
“Conclusions of the EMWRT – I”
European Media Round Table
(Brussels’ 2006-10-18)

By: **Roger Roberts**
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The report

Conclusions of the first "European-Media-Wrapper-Round-Table" (EMWRT-1) (Brussels October 18th 2006)

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Purpose of the Meeting

The Non-Profit-Organisation TITAN has decided to promote the **interoperable interchange of "Media assets"** between IT systems. The intention is to analyse the interoperability requirements and the architectures able to ensure that interoperability. That promotion takes the form of organising or participating to events, conferences, projects and publications. TITAN has called that dynamics "AXIS". The organisation of the "European-Media-Round-Table" is one of the aspects of the AXIS project.

The name "Round-Table" has been selected in reference to similar meetings organised in the USA, namely by the Library of Congress such as for the NDIPP (National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program) see <http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/ndipp>.

The initiative of TITAN is sponsored by various organizations and projects. TITAN intends to carry-on its efforts in collaboration with the similar efforts of the European Union and of the UNESCO.

MEMNON, one of the members of TITAN, is in charge of the finalization of the architectural and technical definition of a proposal of "Wrapping System" meeting the general requirements for flexible interoperable interchanges. After release, these specifications are intended to be made available in "Open source" on the UNESCO web site. The project is also sponsored by the European Union under the name MEMORIES. In particular, the MEMORIES project has planned to confront its AXIS results with external experts and policy makers constituting so a "Special Interest Group" (SIG). The "Round-Table" is a way to convene a SIG, while giving to the participant the occasion of confrontation and fruitful discussions (win-win).

The next meeting will be held in Paris, on October 25th at the location of TV5 (avenue de Wagram 131, 75017 Paris) with the contribution of UTC Compiègne, MEMNON, MediaNet Vlaanderen and the European Project "Memories" (www.memories-project.eu).



Comments on the report

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By: **Roger Roberts** (*President of TITAN*)

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Madam, Sir,

You have received copy of the report of the first “EMWRT” held in Brussels on October 18th 2007.

The non-profit-association TITAN (www.titan.be) and MEMNON as coordinator of the MEMORIES project (www.memories-project.eu) would highly appreciate if you take a few minutes to write today your evaluation and comments to the reported conclusions. Please fill-in immediately the form below and give it back to the secretary during the EMWRT-II (Paris [October 25th, 2007] at TV5).

Variant, if you prefer to take your time, please mention it in the “HEADER”, write a first quick answer and give the form to the secretary. You will send more detailed comments later to [Roger Roberts](mailto:Roger.Roberts) (the file of the form is on the CD).

Sincerely,

Roger Roberts

Guy Maréchal

HEADER

Your name:

.....

I will send additional comments later¹

¹ *Please circle your choice(s) and possibly add your comments and suggestions*

Conclusion n°1:

The conclusions of the first EMWRT should be reconsidered at the second meeting which should include also presentations of illustrative good solutions.

Question: Is the programme of the second EMWRT fitting with your expectations?

Answer: Yes¹ No¹

Your comments or suggestions:

Conclusion n°2:

The selection and empowerment of the Assets is a management decision.

Question: Do you know general directives guiding the selection process?

Answer: Yes¹ No¹

If "Yes", please could you give a reference or a "key-word" for querying?

¹ Please circle your choice(s) and possibly add your comments and suggestions

Conclusion n°3:

The OAIS standard provides a sound reference model for designing persistent interoperable IT systems.

Question: Do you agree with that statement? Please gives also the improvements that you would like to see included in the version 2.

Answer: Yes No
Wishes for of improvements?

Conclusion n°4:

The SIP-AIP-DIP concepts of the OAIS standard provides a sound reference model for designing interoperable interchange of "Media assets" between IT systems. However, the standards should be extended.

Question: Do you agree with that statement? Please gives also the improvements that you would like to see included in the version 2.

Answer: Yes No
Wishes for of improvements?

Conclusion n°5:

A consistent set of definitions of the involved terms should be made available and a "charter" should be established.

Question: Do you agree with that statement? Do you know the document of [Yola de Lusenet](#)? Do you know a better or up-to-date equivalent?

Answer: Yes No
Comments

Conclusion n°6:

Designing and exploiting real interoperable IT systems is not a trivial task. Many good systems could be implemented. Systems claimed to be good appears often after some time as being locked by hidden features or by unexpected situations. Most of the current Media IT systems do not meet interoperability criteria such as those of the OAIS standard and other specific requirements.

Question: Do you agree with that statement? Do you know examples of OAIS compliant (or partly compliant) systems? Could you give examples of hidden or unexpected features? Please comment!

Answer: Yes No
Comments

Conclusion n°7:

A consistent set of criteria qualifying the “interoperability” should be made available.

Questions: Do you agree with that statement? Do you know or have you established such a consistent set of criteria?

Answer: Yes No

Comments

Conclusion n°8:

The meeting recognises that, in many contexts, the interoperability requirements imply the capacity of modelling not only the “Assets” but also the processes for their traceability.

Questions: Do you agree with that statement? Do you know good approaches to the control of the processes and the traceability?

Answer: Yes No

Comments

Conclusion n°9:

The meeting recommends basing the insurance of the “interoperability” on internationally recognised standards with opening to emerging standards.

Questions: Do you agree with that statement? For each of the entries gives a small comment in liaison with the conclusions presented in the report.

- 1- Backbone model
- 2- Logical wrappers
- 3- Physical wrappers
- 4- Metadata
- 5- Metadata thesaurus
- 6- Essence standards

Conclusion n°10:

Promote the presentation of current important projects implying the interoperability.

Questions: Do you know such current projects? If yes please give their reference.

Could you give your feelings on the choices made in AXIS / MEMORIES?

Please indicate possible other recommendations for each of the entries!

References to other interesting projects:

The choices made by AXIS / MEMORIES (1 / 3)

- 1- AXIS/MEMORIES are based on OAIS at interface level with the fusion of the SIP with the AIP.
Comments:

- 2- AXIS/MEMORIES have its own "backbone model" in which the data model is compatible with the FRBR / METS / MXF / CIDOC-CRM (ISO 21 127) logical models.
Comments:

- 3- AXIS/MEMORIES have no specific logical wrapper! It could use simple ZIP or RAR! But it could also export to METS or MXF which combine "Backbone" with "Wrapper".
Comments:

- 4- AXIS/MEMORIES are structured through orthogonality's.
Comments:

- 5- AXIS/MEMORIES accepts the multiplicity of representations
Comments:

The choices made by AXIS / MEMORIES (2 / 3)

6- AXIS/MEMORIES have organised the "personalisation" through the definition of "**Profiles**". The MEMORIES project intends to release in open-source (on the UNESCO Web site) the definition of a few typical profiles. Each profile is defined by seven entries:

- 1- One or more UID systems (including *nameSpaces*)
- 2- Terms
- 3- Entities
- 4- Documents
- 5- Relations
- 6- Authority lists & thesaurus
- 7- References

Note: For each of the categories, inclusion of items already defined in other profiles

Comments:

The choices made by AXIS / MEMORIES (3 / 3)

5- AXIS/MEMORIES accepts the multiplicity of human languages

Comments:

6- AXIS/MEMORIES intends to release in open-source (on the UNESCO Web site) the definition and associated tool kit of the X-AXIS exchange system based on "Autonomous eXchange Entities" [AXE]

Comments:

7- AXIS/MEMORIES have selected some standards for expressing the data model

- XML/XSD & X-LINK
- RDF / OWL / SMIL / DCMI
- Folder / File / Hyperlinks'

Comments:

Thank you !

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