# **NEXOF-RA**

**NESSI Open Framework – Reference Architecture** 

# IST- FP7-216446



# **DeliverableD9.2** Report on Standardisation Activities

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# **Change History**

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0.2	20/07/2009	Draft	Franz Kudorfer	Integration of workshop minutes contributed by Philipp Wieder (SLA@SOI)
1.0	05/08/2009	Final	Franz Kudorfer	Integration of internal review comments

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In order to establish the NEXOF-RA community on standardisation the standardisation work package (in cooperation with the SLA@SOI project) organised a session at the Internet of Services 2009 Collaboration Meeting for FP6 & FP7 projects, which took place in June 2009 in Brussels. NESSI strategic, NESSI compliant and some other projects presented their activities and approach towards standardisation and their expectations for support and collaboration.

The main outcome was a decision to use the European Community for Software & Software Services – Architectures, Infrastructures, Engineering (ECSS) platform for networking and knowledge sharing in standardisation.

In this deliverable the presentations of participating projects are summarised and a short overview on the collaboration platform is provided.

As a consequence the NEXOF-RA work package 9 will be re-focussed and effort will be used for moderating and animating the standardisation community.

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# **Document Information**

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# **1** INTRODUCTION

In the first project year of NEXOF-RA standardisation work package elaborated a strategy for the standardisation approach was, which also defines the relationship to NESSI and its Standardisation Committee.

Further it has elaborated a list of standards and standardisation bodies that are candidates for interest in the context of the NESSI Open framework. This information was documented in a project internal wiki and used for state-of-the art reports and other technical work packages.

Within this first project year NEXOF-RA initiated the communication to the NESSI Strategic and other projects using the Architecture Board for management issues and technology decisions and using the Open Contribution Process for gathering relevant project work to build the Reference Architecture.

During this work standards were often addressed but it turned out that a real evaluation of standards and discussion on standardisation process issues was mostly out of scope of these activities - or at least of low priority.

As a consequence the work package partners decided to proactively organize a workshop with NESSI Strategic Projects in order to find out their positions towards standards, their need for coordination and support in this field and the definition of a common strategy.

In order to limit travels and ensure broad participation we chose the way to use the "Internet of Services 2009 Collaboration Meeting for FP6 & FP7 projects" and its session on standardisation to bring all stakeholders together. The event took part on 10 and 11 June 2009 in Brussels.

In this deliverable we give a report on the workshop and the conclusions we draw.

- Chapter 2 contains the positions and approaches of the participating projects, based on their presentations at the event.
- Chapter 3 contains a summary of the discussions during and after the presentations and the action items and decisions taken.
- Chapter 4 contains an evaluation of the results and the conclusion for NEXOF-RA and its standardisation work package.

The Appendix gives a short overview on the European Community for Software and Services, whose facilities shall be used for further collaboration.

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# **2** COLLABORATION MEETING

The Internet of Services Collaboration Meeting took place on 10 and 11 June 2009 in Brussels. The session on standardisation was on the second day of the event and was attended by about 30 people.

NEXOF-RA had decided to use this event as an opportunity to bring together all NESSI Strategic and other projects in order to discuss their needs and expectations towards NEXOF-RA concerning support and coordination of standardisation.

In the following chapters we give a summary of the projects' presentations.

# 2.1 Reports of NESSI Strategic Projects

NESSI Strategic Projects (NSPs) are research projects that have been selected by NESSI and are committed to contribute significantly to the NESSI Open Framework. SLA@SOI, SO4ALL, MASTER and RESERVOIR are funded by FP7, EzWEB by the national Spanish program Avanza.

Representatives of all NSPs - with the exception of MASTER - attended the workshop and gave presentations.

#### 2.1.1 SLA@SOI

#### Project overview

SLA@SOI is an Integrated Project with a duration of 3 years (June 2008 – May 2011) and a Budget of 15.2 M€. It assembles 13 partners from 7 countries (Austria, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, and United Kingdom):

6 industrial companies, 1 SME, 4 academics and 2 research centres.

Further info see: <u>http://www.sla-at-soi.eu</u>

#### Approach towards standards

SLA@SOI has defined a Contribution and Assessment Cycle which is based on the project's main topic areas.



Figure 1 Contribution and Assessment Cycle

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It has performed a classification of the standards, a selection of high-impact areas and is defining the contribution to NEXOF-RA standardisation work package and the NESSI Standardisation Committee.

SLA@SOI follows the motto: "Monitor broadly - Contribute selectively".

# Selected Standards

- Service Component Architecture (SCA)
- Common Information Model (CIM)
- WS-Agreement (WSAG) Working Group
- WS-Agreement-Negotiation
- Web-Based Enterprise Management (WBEM)
- GLUE working (GLUE), Open Grid Forum
- System Definition Model/System Modelling Language (SDM/SML)
- Open Virtualization Format (OVF)
- Web Service Distributed Management (WSDM)
- Open Cloud Computing Interface (OCCI)

# Example I – SLA Negotiation

Originating from a FP6 projects' collaboration which includes AssessGrid, BEinGRID, BREIN, SmartLM, and others a cross-link to the collaborative working groups "Quality of Service and Service Level Agreements" was established. The approach is quite promising: It covers a large group of stakeholders and assures through alignment of roadmaps

A pre-standard development is done within projects who give "Life" feedback into the standardisation process. As a result the standardisation and implementations are synchronized.

# Example II - OCCI

The Open Cloud Computing Interface (OCCI) is a group within the Open Grid Forum (<u>http://www.occi-wg.org/</u>) with a strong industrial involvement. SLA@SOI is contributing to the Infrastructure Management work package.

The OCCI will deliver an API specification for remote management of cloud computing infrastructure, allowing for the development of interoperable tools for common tasks including deployment, autonomic scaling and monitoring. The scope of the specification will be all high level functionality required for the life-cycle management of virtual machines (or workloads) running on virtualization technologies (or containers) supporting service elasticity.







# 2.1.2 SOA4ALL

## Project overview

Service Oriented Architectures for All (SOA4All) is a Large-Scale Integrating Project. It aims at realizing a world where billions of parties are exposing and consuming services via advanced Web technology: the main objective of the project is to provide a comprehensive framework that integrates complementary and evolutionary technical advances (i.e., SOA, context management, Web principles, Web 2.0 and semantic technologies) into a coherent and domain-independent service delivery platform.

It has duration of 36 months (01 March 2008 to 28 February 2011).

#### Selected Standards

- MicroWSMO & WSMO-Lite
- WSDL
- SAWSDL
- WSMO-Lite

#### Example: Semantic SOA Reference Ontology

The OASIS SOA Reference Model became a standard in October 2006. SOA4 ALL has initiated a Technical Committee on Semantic Execution Environment (SEE) which shall be based on this Reference Model. . It goal is to define an agnostic formal service model for its definition

#### Next Steps planned are:

- Second public review of OASIS SEE TC Semantic SOA Reference Ontology (Partners: SAP, IBM, Univ. of Innsbruck)
- On The Move Workshop (SOA4All chairs) `Beyond SAWSDL'
- Recommencement of the SEE TC Reference Architecture

#### 2.1.3 RESERVOIR

#### Project Overview

RESERVOIR is an Integrated Project with duration of 3 years (February 2008 - January 2011) and a total cost of about 17 M€.

Its focus is on technologies that enable to build cooperating computing clouds and to connect computing clouds to create an even bigger cloud. Thus it comprises integration of virtualization technologies with grid computing driven by new techniques for business service management.







# The Service Oriented Infrastructure (SOI) equation is shown in Figure 2:



#### Figure 2 SOI Equation

Building on this equation RESERVOIR will architect and implement a platform for supporting complex services, which:

- Enables dynamic deployment of complex multi-tier services across heterogeneous administration domains
- Uses virtualization of servers, storage and network to allow migration without borders
- Supports service definition, SLA management, accounting and billing

## **Standards Activities**

1) The Service Manager Interface (SMI) will be an API to interact with the Service Providers (SP) to manage the service provisioning in a Cloud and among different clouds.

Out of these standardization activities the results will be

- contributed to NEXOF-RA
- OVF extensions to be contributed to DMTF's Cloud Incubator Chapter

# For the standardisation process, support from NEXOF-RA is required: to select Standardization body for presenting SMI specification.

2) DMTF's Cloud Incubator WG was launched April 27th 2009. Members are Cisco, Citrix, HP, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Sun, Red Hat, VMware ...

- Its scope is: "To create a set of information specifications to advance the industry thinking around cloud interoperability and its management, especially between clouds"
- Its focus is on IaaS clouds, considering SLAs, QoS, utilization, provisioning and accounting and billing.

The proposed roadmap is:

- 3Q09: Cloud Taxonomy
- 3Q09: Cloud Trust requirements
- 3Q09: Use cases and requirements for Cloud Profiles
- 1Q10: Proposed OVF changes for cloud usage







Subgroups are being created as task forces to work on specific issues like Cloud Taxonomy or Cloud Use Cases.

3) The VEE Manager Interface (VMI) is a cloud API for providing virtualized resources. It shall support the deployment, control and monitoring of VEEs (Virtual Machines), create virtual networks, monitor and control VEEM sites and support the federation of cloud sites.

Standardization activities of RESERVOIR in this context are:

- VMI-partners collaborate with OGF's OCCI WG (Open Cloud Computing Interface)
- Plans for VMI to implement future OCCI specification
- Plans for contributing to DMTF's Cloud Incubator
- VMI to be contributed to NEXOF-RA

4) The Open Cloud Computing Interface (OCCI) aims for an API specification for remote management of cloud computing infrastructure like deployment, autonomic scaling, and monitoring and lifecycle management of virtual machines.

#### **Conclusions**

- SMI & VMI are candidates for Cloud APIs but with different abstraction level (SOC & IaaS)
  - VMI standardization in short-term
  - OVF extensions standardization in short-term
  - First contacts to contribute to DMTF Cloud Incubator WG
  - SMI standardization in medium-term
- Help needed for targeting standardization body
- SMI & VMI to be contributed to NEXOF-RA
- Some RESERVOIR partners very active at DMTF'S Cloud Incubator and OGF's OCCI

#### 2.1.4 EzWEB

#### Project Overview

EzWEB is a research project funded by the Spanish program Avanza I+D, dealing with Service Front-Ends. The total duration is 3 years; the project is now in its 3rd year.

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Goal of EzWEB is to develop an open source reference implementation of standard technologies for the front-end web access layer in next-generation SOA and the future Internet of Services. The approach: A "gadget" becomes the basic building block that puts a "face" on contents and services, making them "visible and tangible" to end-users

#### Approach towards standards

#### 1) Service Front-End Resources Metadata

- Formal, declarative Metadata Specification to be used to describe Front-End Resources (gadgets) in mashup platforms
- Cataloguing and indexing, contextual information, rendering, accounting and billing, social aspects, usage aspects, required elements, behavioural properties and aspects

#### 2) Service Front-End APIs

- Standard APIs provided by the Front-End layer that facilitate the development and usage of SFRs.
- Provide access to platform functionality
- User Preferences, Wiring, State Properties, access to Context, access to Rendering information
- Give solutions to some current browser limitations
- Cross domain scripting (AJAX, Web Service invocation), Inter-iframe Drag & Drop, Identity Management ...

#### Standards Activities

The Relevant specification work is to consolidate specifications within the NEXOF-RA 2<sup>nd</sup> Invitation to Contribute (TID/UPM, National Technical University of Athens, and Fraunhofer).

The Open Ajax Forum is a possible destination for these specifications; W3C is the natural standardization body for such work. TID is a member of OpenAjax Forum and W3C, but not positioned in these groups yet.

EzWEB has initiated the activities although the project is not absolutely certain if they will be pursued to the full extent possible; development of the technology and SW platform is the priority right now.

# 2.2 Reports of NESSI Compliant Projects

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NESSI Compliant Projects are funded research projects that are designed in compliance with the NESSI vision and Strategic Research Agenda. The compliance is self-assessed by the consortium.

Representatives of four NESSI Compliant projects attended the workshop and gave presentations.

## 2.2.1 PrimeLife

#### Project Overview

Bringing Sustainable Privacy and Identity Management to Future Networks and Services

PrimeLife will resolve the core privacy and trust issues pertaining to these challenges. Its long-term vision is to counter the trend to life-long personal data trails without compromising on functionality. It will build upon and expand the sound foundation of the FP6 project PRIME that has shown privacy technologies can enable citizens to execute their legal rights to control personal information in on-line transactions.

Start date: 01 March 2008

Duration: 36 Months

Total cost: 15 Mio €

Total EC Funding: 10.2 Mio €

#### **Standardisation Activities**

PrimeLife Partners are involved in following standardisation bodies / technical committees:

- OASIS TC XACML
- ISO/IEC JTC1 SC 37 Biometrics
- ISO/IEC JTC 1 SC 27 WG 5
- W3C PLING
- Social Web XG

The cooperation encompasses:

- Privacy aspects of policy languages
- Social Web XG privacy requirements
- Biometrics and Access control
- Rule based approaches and XACML integration
- Privacy and control on the mobile web

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# $\bigcirc$ creative $\bigcirc$ $\bigcirc$





# 2.2.2 COMPAS

# Project Overview

The COMPAS project will design and implement novel models, languages, and an architectural framework to ensure dynamic and on-going compliance of software services to business regulations and stated user service-requirements. COMPAS will use model-driven techniques, domain-specific languages, and service-oriented infrastructure software to enable organizations developing business compliance solutions easier and faster". <u>http://www.compas-ict.eu</u>

Work Areas of COMPAS are:

- Core concepts and a model-driven compliance software framework
- Specification languages and models for expressing compliance concerns
- A behavioural model for services and service composition compliance enabling formal validation
- Compliance governance

Duration 3 years (01 February 2008 to 31 January 2011)

#### Approach towards standards

Existing approaches for compliance in processes do not cover compliance issues while considering reusability. The main challenge is enabling the compliance of business processes and service compositions considering avoidance of process pollution, support of frequently changing compliance requirements and compliance monitoring.

We propose using "**Process Fragments**" in the field of compliance. Potential specifications are for example D1.10 "BPEL for Semantic Web Services (BPEL4SWS)" from European Project SUPER (<u>www.ip-super.org</u>)

The working definition of Process Fragment is "Connected sub-graph of a process graph". It may also contain additional artefacts like partner links,, policies or variables but it is not necessarily directly executable. Some parts may be explicitly stated as opaque, in order to mark points of variability.

#### 2.2.3 MyMobileWeb

#### Project Overview

MyMobileWeb is a research project funded by the Spanish program Avanza I+D with a total duration of 4 years and is now in its 3rd year. It is dealing with Multi-Device Mobile Web Applications Adaptation

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The goal of MyMobileWeb is to make the mobile web a reality by removing one of the main obstacles: high development and maintenance costs of mobile sites due to the immense diversity of handsets, thus enabling a rich community of developers and companies to create easily and economically innovative web applications.

MyMobileWeb will deliver an open source, standards-based content & application adaptation platform and a user interface language that allows authoring of mobile web pages once for any kind of handset.

#### Approach towards standards

MyMobileWeb has a leading role in W3C and contributes significantly in various groups:

#### **Ubiquitous Web Applications**

With the following standardisation activities in focus:

- DIAL
- DDR Simple API
- DCCI
- Context Ontology

Some contributions to the Context Ontology have been coordinated through and investigation team in NEXOF-RA

#### Model-Based User Interface

MyMobileWeb is a main promoter of the group. Some initial work was carried out via a NEXOF-RA investigation team.

# 2.2.4 FAST

#### Project Overview

FAST is a FP7 Call 1 STREP, dealing with Service Front-Ends

The goal is to provide a tool that allows users with no programming skills to create gadgets to be used in application mash-up platforms

#### Approach:

Use screens and backend services as Lego-pieces to create complex gadgets. The gadgets will be based on a screen flow using a semantic resource catalogue and can be deployed automatically to any mashup platform

#### Approach towards standards

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In the first year, the project's efforts were directed to defining the overall approach, architecture and a first prototype. The standards strategy will be defined during the 2nd year.

An initial candidate specification is the declarative model for screen flow-based smart applications. Possible bodies could be the Open Ajax Alliance for writing the specifications and W3C for formal standardisation. FAST is not positioned in these groups yet.

# 2.3 Reports of other Projects

The Standardisation workshop was open to all FP6 and FP7 projects in the area of Software & Services, Grid and Software and Service Architectures and Infrastructures.

## 2.3.1 SHAPE

#### Project Overview

The SHAPE project aims to support the development and realization of enterprise systems based on a Semantically-enabled Heterogeneous service Architecture (SHA). SHA extends Service Oriented Architectures (SOA) with semantics and heterogeneous infrastructures (Web services, Agents, Semantic Web Services, P2P and Grid) under a unified service oriented approach. To achieve this, the consortium of the SHAPE project will develop a Model-Driven Engineering (MDE) tool-supported methodology and will take an active role in the standardization of metamodels and languages for SHA.

It has a duration of 2, years (01 December 2007 - 31 May 2010), an overall budget of 5.7 M Euro and an EU Funding Contribution of 3.9 M Euro.

#### Approach towards standards

SHAPE is driving following standards in **OMG**:

- UPMS/SoaML RFP (UML Profile and Metamodel for Services) issued in 2006
- SoaML, Service oriented architecture Modeling language, response adopted in December 2008, now in FTF –

The groups are jointly led by the SHAPE project (Arne J. Berre) and IBM (Jim Amsden, USA)

A new possibility has been identified: AMP RFP (Agent Metamodel and Profile, with semantics/ontology, P2P/Grid option) issued in 2008. A first response is planned for August 2009.

This is a joint European team working with opportunities to participate now!







SHAPE is also participating in the **ISO/TC211 – Geographic Information and Services** and contributing to ISO 19119 – Service architecture standard (initial editor: Arne J. Berre, SINTEF).

There is a possibility now to influence a new edition of this standard – generic classification of services, taxonomy and categories (not only related to spatial services).

#### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Start standardisation activities early; preferably initiate the standardisation process during the proposal stage; if not already in progress expect a reference time of 3-4 years.

Join existing standardisation initiatives (i.e. OMG UPMS/SoaML, AMP) with potential extensions. In order to achieve impact be actively involved and use the international standards community as an extended project group.

#### 2.3.2 BEinGRID

#### Project Overview

BEinGRID (Business Experiments in GRID) is the European Union's largest integrated project funded by the Information Society Technologies (IST) research, part of the EU's sixth research Framework Programme (FP6). The BEinGRID consortium is composed of 95 partners who are running 25 Business Experiments (BEs) designed to implement and deploy Grid solutions in industrial key sectors.

BEinGRID will end in November 2009

Project Objectives are:

- Support 18+7 Business Experiments as they apply Grid technology to real business cases
- Analyse these experiments to find common problems
- Produce extensions to existing Grid middleware
- Identify best-practices and try to learn lessons from the Business Experiment experiences
- Set up Gridipedia, a repository of Grid software and literature for business

#### Approach towards standards

#### **Contribution to standards**

The project subcontractor Axiomatics has been involved and has contributed to the OASIS XACML 3.0 specification.

#### The following standards are used in Business Experiments

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- XACML.
- WS-Addressing.
- WS-RF.
- WS-Notification.
- WS-Trust/WS Security.
- SAML.
- WS-Agreement.
- UDDI.
- JSR168.
- (OGSA-DAI).

# 2.3.3 Q-ImPrESS

(The presentation was not given at the workshop but uploaded to the event's website; it contains valuable information and statements)

## Project Overview

The goal of Q-ImPrESS is to define a new service engineering method for creating and evolving service-oriented software with predictable end-to-end quality.

Q-ImPrESS has duration of 36 months (01 January 2008 to 31 December 2010), project Cost of 4.68 million euro and a project funding of 3.33 million euro.

#### Approach towards standards

Q-ImPrESS will monitor upcoming UPMS (UML Profile and Metamodel for Services), initiate contacts to relevant Standardisation Bodies (e.g. OMG) and attend related events like OMG Meeting (Ottawa, June 2008). Next action is a follow-up with OMG RFI for "Handling Non Functional Properties in SOA".

#### **Goals within the CWG Standardisation**

Q-ImPrESS is interested in networking with other research projects, getting to know other research projects' standardisation efforts and getting to know other research projects' people.

Further it wants to drive networking with standardisation bodies in order to get information about contacts at relevant standardisation bodies, relevant standards and about ongoing and upcoming standardisation activities.

Collaboration is offered in exchanging standardisation intents between research projects and identifying research projects which intend to contribute to the same (aspects of) standards. The goal is a common approach to standardisation bodies.

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Q-ImPrESS has **expectations** towards the working group ("Standardisation Wish List"):

- Provide an open platform (e.g. Web 2.0 based) for information exchange
- Provide relevant information on
  - Research projects' standardization efforts
  - o Discussion and information exchange forum
  - "Address book" of relevant standardization contacts
  - o "Address book" of research project contacts

Related requirements are open access for all interested research projects and easy retrieval of information (e.g. search functionality). The goal is to enhance electronic communication whenever face-to face meetings are not feasible.

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# **3** DISCUSSION, OPEN ISSUES AND COMMENTS

During the presentation and especially in the last hour of the working group session many topics were discussed. In this section we try to structure the topics and report the main standpoints and suggestions.

# 3.1 Selection criteria for standardisation bodies

#### Issues discussed

- 1. Companies surely have their own criteria to make this decision.
- 2. Some criteria can be found in the COPRAS project's guideline.
- 3. Standards bodies advertise and give support
- 4. "Involve yourself"<sup>1</sup> through people who are involved (=> ECSS website)
- 5. Procedure to hand over standardisation candidates' results to following projects (Call 5!) is needed.
- 6. How can a STREP with insufficient funding make an effective contribution to standardisation? One idea is to find a suitable standardisation body (see above) and properly channel the contribution to a company already involved in the respective group. Experience has also shown that it might be an appropriate approach to contact a national contact point to find groups already involved in a specific standardisation effort.
- 7. NESSI has found that the funding mechanisms for SMEs are not appropriate. It has been discussed whether a Support Action for standardisation might be a proper approach, but the feedback from the audience was negative.

# 3.2 Standardisation guidelines for projects and proposals

#### Issues discussed

- 1. It was agreed that the COPRAS guidelines are still valid.
- 2. Working in standardisation bodies is normally executed on an individual basis.
- 3. How to create critical mass (alliances)?
- 4. Request for collaboration on ECSS website would be a good instrument to find alliances and discuss common demands.
- 5. A business model is one essential driver for standardisation.
- 6. Standardisation opportunities created by ending projects should be taken up by upcoming projects.

# Action:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.w3.org/2004/copras/





Organise a meeting or workshop on XACML. Meeting/Workshop to be organised by PrimeLife. The call for participation will be published through ECSS.

# 3.3 Tools

There was a discussion on the use of proper communication tools which will satisfy the requirements of the community at-large and the participants of the group. The ECSS forum<sup>2</sup> is currently the tool of choice, but the forum currently suffers from low traffic and a small number of members.

#### Issues discussed

- 1. ECSS does not contain much information, the forum has low traffic.
- 2. It would be helpful to also have an overview of who of the group is going to which events, who is active in which standards, and which projects and people are involved. This information should be available.
- 3. NEXOF-RA has an internal Wiki on standards. Opening (parts of) it to the public is currently being discussed.
- 4. The web site at ECSS should contain more information, specifically
  - a. A list of projects and participants
  - b. Standards which are targeted
  - c. A list of events
  - d. Best practices and success stories

#### **Decisions:**

- I. Use input from today's presentations to extract information for the ECSS web site.
- II. Continue using the ECSS forum.
- III. No RSS feed needed for the time being.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.eu-ecss.eu/forum/





# **4** CONCLUSION

The workshop at the Internet of Services Collaboration Meeting showed that there is a strong interest from many projects in standardisation issues. The discussion which followed the presentations pointed out many aspects that have to be considered when planning the further work of NEXOF-RA and the proposal for a follow-up project:

- Technical collaboration works well
- Contribution to standards is mainly driven by institutions and individuals (only sometimes by projects) ...
- ... but that is the nature of standardisation

All NESSI Strategic and NESSI Compliant projects originate from FP7 Call 1and after their first project year they have started to address standardisation in their regular work. Of course they have reached different levels of progress in their standardisation activities.

SLA@SOI, SOA4ALL and PrimeLife have identified the standards they will address and have already assigned standardisation representatives to standardisation bodies that are in their focus.

EzWEB, MyMobileWeb and FAST are all working in the area of Service Front-Ends and have identified the standardisation bodies relevant for their work.

RESERVOIR has identified large standards gaps in its field of interest and has explicitly asked for support for selecting the right standardisation body and the strategy for approaching them.

COMPAS has identified topics for standardisation and is currently setting up its strategy.

Some other projects that participated are more mature in this respect and could present experiences from a longer timeframe:

BEinGRID gathered 95 partners to perform business experiments in Grid environments. The project does not need further support in standardisation activities. By the nature of the project it uses a lot of standards, but did not have the goal to drive standardisation. Nevertheless the list of used standards gives a lot of hints on their relevance and applicability.

SHAPE has established close connection to OMG and ISO and can be a facilitator for further activities with these bodies.

Q-ImPrESS has stated clearly what the majority of the workshop participants have expressed:

The main expectation of support for projects is to provide a communication platform where relevant information is available in a structured way and where projects can contribute with their knowledge, contacts and best practice.

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As a consequence the standardisation activities of NEXOF-RA will in future have a completely different scope. NEXOF-RA will:

- a) organise and moderate the collaboration platform and the wiki
- b) support RESERVOIR in concrete standardisation activities
- c) be aware of upcoming requests for support and provide projects with required information

During the second year of the project the platform will be animated and moderated jointly by NEXOF-RA and SLA@SOI and ideas for keeping the community alive after these projects end will be elaborated.

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# **APPENDIX: COLLABORATION PLATFORM FOR STANDARDISATION**

# 4.1 Requirements

This platform shall comprise information on:

- Activity of standardisation bodies
- Contact persons (who is going?)
- Events and attendance
- Guidelines (e.g. COPRAS results)
- Collection of relevant project deliverables
- Knowledge of standardisation processes

# 4.2 Concept

The following sub-systems can be part of this collaboration platform:

- The ECSS website that includes a page for the standards working group: <u>http://www.eu-ecss.eu/contents/private-area/standards/standards</u>
- The ECSS Discussion Forum that contains a board on standards: <u>http://www.eu-ecss.eu/forum/viewforum.php?f=10</u>
- The NEXOF-RA wiki that contains detailed information on standards and standardisation bodies. This wiki shall be made public by the project.

For all three sub-systems a responsible for moderation and maintenance shall be named.

# 4.3 ECSS Web Site

The ECSS – European Community for Software and Services (Architectures, Infrastructures, Engineering) - was developed and managed through the 3S project. This Sixth Framework Programme (FP6) Specific Support Action (SSA) supported the goals of the IST Priority in developing and implementing a Joint European White Paper for R&D and Industry in the Service and Software Architectures, Infrastructures and Engineering field. The aim was to push the involvement of the EU to a competitive position worldwide by identifying strategies and technologies that will facilitate future developments and reduce fragmentation.

With the creation of ECSS, 3S established a platform for networking and knowledge transfer between the relevant scientific and industrial communities and for jointly pursuing the interests of the stakeholders in the field of IST (see Figure 3).

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Figure 3 ECSS Web Site

For participating and contributing to ECSS, registration is required. As well as generic and overview information there are dedicated pages for the ECSS working groups.

The working group on standards has the following goals and objectives:

The Coordination of Contribution to Standards TG wants to accomplish the following objectives jointly with national and European projects, European Technology Platforms like NESSI, as well as with globally operating experts and standardisation bodies:

**Information assessment and provision**: To effectively operate in the landscape of standardisation, it is essential to assess, maintain and provide information about the standardisation activities and needs of the projects involved. This includes:

- Gathering information about the ongoing standardisation activities
- Gathering information about existing gaps or needs for standards
- Maintaining the information to have always an up-to-date view
- Providing the projects and the community at large with a consolidated view on standardisation activities, needs, and news

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**Strategy definition:** Experience from Framework Programme 5 and Framework Programme 6 has shown that the definition of one overall standardisation strategy for a large group of projects is a path better not to be entered Therefore it seems more appropriate to use the information assessed and the synergies created by the Coordination of Contribution to Standards TG to assist individuals, institutions, groups or FP7 projects in finding others interested in a certain standard and add standardisation related bits to the more technical discussion on how to advance. This collaboration effort may also include the establishment of contacts to specific standardisation bodies through liaisons.

**Networking**: Although the ICT Software and Services Architectures, Infrastructures and Engineering projects represent a substantial body of expertise and experience, it is obvious that the standardisation landscape is much wider and includes a far greater number of players. Therefore the Coordination of Contribution to Standards TG addresses the networking aspect of standardisation including support for SMEs, the collaboration with projects outside Challenge 1.2, the collaboration with other European activities dealing with standards, liaisons with standardisation bodies and the promotion of collaboration results.

As the support for SMEs is one of the overall objectives of the collaboration effort, its importance is also evident in the context of standardisation. Therefore, regarding the main objectives information assessment, strategy definition and networking, it is important to include SMEs in the loop and handle their demands with particular care.

# 4.4 ECSS Forum

The ECSS Forum provides facilities for sharing information and discussing issues. The standardisation working group will use the forum for distributing news, invitations and meeting minutes (see Figure 4).

Registration to the forum is automatically performed with the registration at the ECSS web site (but NOT vice versa).

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by Kudorfer on Fri Jun 05, 2009 1:14 pm	0	12	on Fri Jun 05, 2009 1:14 pm	
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Figure 4 ECSS Community Forum

# 4.5 NEXOF-RA wiki

NEXOF-RA has set up a wiki for collecting all relevant information and ideas concerning the project. At least the standards part of this wiki will be made public – for a detailed description of the wiki structure see NEXOF-RA D9.1.

The pages on standards and standardisation bodies will be published in order to allow the community to add relevant information and keep the wiki up to date.. This will need a strong moderation or animation.

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