CEN

WORKSHOP

AGREEMENT

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English version

A Simple Query Interface Specification for Learning Repositories

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Ref. No.:CWA 15454:2005 E

Contents

Foreword

This CWA presents an Application Programmer Interface (API) for querying learning object repositories. The core is an abstract API; bindings to web services, Java and PHP have also been developed. Since one major design objective is to keep the specification simple and easy to implement, the interface is labelled <u>S</u>imple <u>Q</u>uery <u>I</u>nterface (SQI).

In the context of this CWA, learning object repositories are defined as collections of educational material, courses, and learning objects with associated descriptions (referred to as "metadata"). Examples of repositories for learning are educational brokers, knowledge pools, streaming video servers, etc.

The decision for this work item was taken by the Learning Technologies Workshop at the 14th meeting on March 24/25, 2003. Work on the CWA actually started at the 17th meeting in April 2003.

The document has been developed through the collaboration of a number of contributing partners, representing a wide mix of interests, from universities to commercial companies. The names of the individuals and their affiliations that have expressed support for this CWA is available at the CEN/ISSS Secretariat. A list of contributors is at the end of this Foreword.

The work relates closely to the Memorandum of Understanding on "Multimedia Access to Education and Training in Europe"

The final review/endorsement round for this CWA was started on 2005-06-16/17 and closed on 2005-07-15.

The final text of this CWA was submitted to CEN for publication on 2005-09-06.

The CWA is technically the same as the Version 1.0 Beta (2005-04-13) that is on http://www.prolearn-project.org/lori

The CWA is part of three SQI related documents (see http://www.prolearn-project.org/lori):

    i. "Learning Object Repository Interoperability Framework": this document provides the "big picture" and should probably be read first if you want to understand the context of this work;
    ii. [this CWA] "Simple Query Interface Specification": this is the core of the specification for querying learning object repositories in an interoperable way;
    iii. "Authentication and Session Management": this document focuses on specific issues related to authentication and session management.

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Comments or suggestions from the users of the CEN Workshop Agreement are welcome and should be addressed to the CEN Management Centre.

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