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English version

Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public Procurement in Europe - Architecture - Part 103: Business Document and Envelope guideline

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European foreword

CWA 17025-103, **Business Document and Envelope guideline** was developed in accordance with CEN-CENELEC Guide 29 “CEN/CENELEC Workshop Agreements – The way to rapid agreement” and with the relevant provisions of CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations - Part 2. It was agreed on 2015-12-02 in a Workshop by representatives of interested parties, approved and supported by CEN following a public call for participation made on 2013-02-20. It does not necessarily reflect the views of all stakeholders that might have an interest in its subject matter.

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This CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) has been drafted and approved by the Workshop on **Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public procurement in Europe (BII)**, phase 3.

CWA 17025 is part of a set of CWAs prepared by CEN/WS BII¹:

- CWA 17025:2016 Methodology and Architecture
- CWA 17026:2016 Notification profiles and transactions
- CWA 17027:2016 Tendering profiles and transactions
- CWA 17028:2016 Catalogue profiles and transactions
- CWA 17029:2016 Post-award profiles and transactions

CWA 17025 part 103 replaces CWA 16558:2012 – Annex I BII Specification Messaging envelope.

CWA 17025 consists of:

- CWA 17025-1 Overview and Architecture

¹ In order to ease the reading and review the CWAs provided by BII, they are also made available on <http://www.cenbii.eu> together with explanatory notes and supporting material. The official version is however the version as published by CEN.

- CWA 17025-101 Conformance and Customization Methodology guideline
- CWA 17025-102 Code List and Identifier Management specification
- CWA 17025-103 Business Document and Envelope guideline
- CWA 17025-104 Profile Architecture specification
- CWA 17025-105 Conformance Registry specification
- CWA 17025-106 Open Procurement Data report
- CWA 17025-107 Message Level Response guideline
- CWA 17025-108 Use of Digital Signature and Other Trust Services
- CWA 17025-109 Guideline on the Concept of Core
- CWA 17025-110 Profile Maintenance Process specification
- CWA 17025-111 Capturing Business Requirements specification
- CWA 17025-112 Syntax Implementations Guideline Methodology guideline
- CWA 17025-113 Business Rules Description Mechanism guideline
- CWA 17025-114 Attachments Handling guideline
- CWA 17025-115 Semantic Data Type guideline
- CWA 17025-116 Glossary and Business Term Vocabulary
- CWA 17025-203 BDE Syntax Implementation Guideline for Messaging Envelope
- CWA 17025-207 UBL Syntax Implementation Guideline for Message Level Response

A detailed overview of all CWA 17025 parts can be found in CWA 17025 part 1.

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Introduction

The first CEN BII Workshop was established in May 2007 with the objective of harmonising electronic procurement in Europe. The CEN BII initiative, which now comprises a further two CEN Workshops, is a standardisation activity within CEN (European Committee for Standardisation). It provides a framework for interoperability in pan-European electronic transactions expressed as a set of technical specifications.

During the second phase of the initiative (CEN WS/BII 2) a set of technical specifications – “CEN BII Profiles” – were documented and published as five CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs), which are currently used across Europe. The profiles are designed to facilitate effective public e-procurement based on a modular approach for implementation, with a focus on global interoperability.

The CEN BII profiles can be seen as “agreements” on message contents and business processes. The profile descriptions focus on core information elements that typically cater to the majority of user requirements applicable across Europe and lower the need for detailed bilateral agreements between the trading partners.

In its third phase (CEN WS/BII 3), which began in March 2013 with the approval of the business plan, the Workshop has focused on ensuring that all relevant aspects of e-procurement are covered, including additional business requirements coming from the new Public Procurement Directives² and alignment to other standardization efforts in the area of electronic invoicing, as well as ensuring wider recognition and adoption of its deliverables.

More information about the CEN BII initiative can be found on www.cenbii.eu.

The purpose of this guideline is to provide a Business Document Header in the form of an envelope including semantics and syntax. The envelope is agnostic to the message contained within and therefore can be used to contain all BII messages both in Post and Pre-Award scenarios – see key examples below.

This will provide a consistent interface to the message handling systems and help ensure end to end automated procurement takes place, a key requirement from the European Commission in their communications on e-Invoicing.

This message envelope is one of the many methods to handle attachments, which is recommended in specific scenarios defined in the CWA on Attachment Handling.

² Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement – replaces Directive 2004/18/EC (“classic Directive”), Directive 2014/25/EU on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors – replaces Directive 2004/17/EC (“utilities Directive”), and Directive 2014/23/EU on the award of concession contracts (new)

1 Scope

This CWA provides the semantic model and syntax to facilitate end-to-end-procurement by providing a consistent envelope wrapper which contains sufficient information elements so that the contained payload(s) can be delivered to the ultimate recipient's system in a timely and efficient manner.

More specifically it should provide sufficient capabilities so that Public Tendering can be carried out in accordance with the new Directives.

2 Goals

The main business benefits to be gained by implementing this CWA are:

1. It should be possible to perform confidential exchange of business documents between any two parties, so no third party can know about the document contents.
2. Receiving party's systems have consistent routing information using this envelope e.g. all messages will have the same root and namespace so recipient routing systems only need to understand the envelope to perform routing functions. See key examples below for scenarios. This will facilitate end-to-end procurement.
3. One or more payloads can be encrypted without affecting the routing/delivery capabilities.
4. The envelope should enable routing of the message without decrypting the content of the contents.
5. Service Providers can add their own routing information to the envelope model without interfering with routing information of the recipient.
6. It should reduce issues with namespace or versioning i.e. routing software only needs to be aware of new versions of the envelope (which may cause namespaces to change also). Whereas the payload structures will change more frequently as they have more complex functionality.

3 Requirements

A messaging envelope is considered an important component for delivery. It is essentially a means to facilitate the receiving system, so it can route the contents (payload) without the need to examine it. This is analogous to the paper version; the paper envelope has simply the delivery (routing) info and so the paper document(s) can be delivered without opening the envelope. From a technical viewpoint it is system of providing attachments together with associated metadata – see CEN BII Guideline on Attachments.

The purpose of this document is to specify, within the framework of WS/BII3, the requirements related to the processing and information content of a messaging envelope. The specified requirements may then be mapped into an existing technical standard for envelopes. However mappings are not within the scope of this document.