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Electronic invoicing - Part 7: Methodology for the development and use of EN 16931-1 compliant structured Core Invoice Usage Specifications

Elektronische Rechnungsstellung - Teil 7: Methode zur Entwicklung und Anwendung einer Anwendungsspezifikation der Kernrechnung nach EN 16931-1

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 15 December 2019 for provisional application.

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Contents

Page

European foreword 3
Introduction 4
1 Scope 5
2 Normative references 5
3 Terms and definitions 5
4 Compliance (Source: EN 16931-1:2017) 6
5 Premises 9
6 Issues that should be considered to avoid unnecessary proliferation 9
7 Steps for the issuer of the CIUS 11
8 Guidance on the creation and implementation of CIUS, with a quality control objective 12
9 Machine readable format 14
Annex A (normative) W3C XML Schema for CIUS configuration 18
Annex B (informative) Example of CIUS configuration 28
Bibliography 32

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 16931-7:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 434 "Electronic Invoicing", the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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Introduction

The European Commission estimates that "The mass adoption of e-invoicing within the EU would lead to significant economic benefits and it is estimated that moving from paper to e-invoices will generate savings of around EUR 240 billion over a six-year period". Based on this recognition "The Commission wants to see e-invoicing become the predominant method of invoicing by 2020 in Europe."

To achieve this goal, Directive 2014/55/EU on electronic invoicing in public procurement aims at facilitating the use of electronic invoices by economic operators when supplying goods, works and services to the public administration. The Directive sets out the legal framework for the establishment and use of a European Standard (EN) for the semantic data model of the core elements of an electronic invoice.

The semantic data model of the core elements of an electronic invoice, the core invoice model, is based on the proposition that a quite limited, but sufficient set of information elements can be defined that supports generally applicable invoice-related functionalities. The core invoice model contains information elements that are commonly used and accepted including those that are legally required.

A "Core Invoice Usage Specification" (CIUS) is a specification that provides a seller with detailed guidance, explanations and examples, as well as rules (business rules) related to the actual implementation and use of structured information elements present in the core invoice model in a specific trading situation. An instance document created following a given CIUS will always be compliant with the European Standard.

A receiving party may only claim compliance to the core invoice model if he accepts invoices that comply with the core invoice model in general, or with a CIUS, that is itself compliant with the core invoice model. A sending party may claim compliance if he sends invoices that comply with the core invoice model, including those issued in accordance with a compliant CIUS.

This specification aims to give guidance on the creation and implementation of a CIUS with a quality control objective. Therefore it is necessary to define a clear set of criteria which a CIUS will comply with before the CIUS can be registered in the appropriate registry. Some of these criteria will be validated automatically while others are not.

To hinder excessive proliferation and to guide implementation, publication of CIUSs in a registry is mandatory and the use of a machine processable format is recommended.

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1 Scope

This document applies in case a CIUS is produced as a specification with the objective of registering it in the appropriate registry. This document also establishes requirements for the steps to be taken in the process of creating Core Invoice Usage Specifications (CIUS) as defined in EN 16931-1. Furthermore, this document provides guidance for the creation and implementation of a CIUS.

The following points are the focus:

— steps that need to be taken in consideration to avoid unnecessary proliferation and fragmentation in the use of CIUSs;

— guidance on the creation and implementation of CIUSs, with a quality control objective.

It should be noted that it is planned to apply the same principles and processes to extensions that are documented in a separate document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 16931-1:2017, *Electronic invoicing — Part 1: Semantic data model of the core elements of an electronic invoice*

CEN/TS 16931-3-1:2017, *Electronic invoicing — Part 3-1: Methodology for syntax bindings of the core elements of an electronic invoice*

CEN/TR 16931-5:2017, *Electronic invoicing — Part 5: Guidelines on the use of sector or country extensions in conjunction with EN 16931-1, methodology to be applied in the real environment*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp/ui

3.1
Core Invoice Usage Specification
CIUS
specification that provides a seller with detailed guidance, explanations and examples, as well as rules (business rules) related to the actual implementation and use of structured information elements present in the core invoice model in a specific trading situation

[SOURCE: EN 16931-1:2017]

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