

Portal-Related Standards

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Overview

- General Comments
- Document Formats
 - TEI, OASIS Open Office, RSS, *etc.*
- Metadata Formats
 - Dublin Core and METS
- Portlet APIs
 - JSR 168 and WSRP

General Comments

- I am not an expert. Please correct my mistakes.

Document Formats – General Comments

- MS Word describes what a document looks like
 - *e.g.*, you can't extract the title
 - HTML also describes what a document looks like
- XML can describe arbitrary documents
- XML + Schema describes a particular kind of document
 - This is where we get interoperability.
- Importance of multiple “looks.”

Document Formats – TEI

- Text Encoding Initiative
- Support for different types of text
 - e.g., Prose, Drama, Verse
- Emphasis on structure, formatting from style sheets
- Supports “title page” metadata
- Some authoring tools, but generally people “mark up” plain texts.

Document Formats – OASIS Open Office

- Based on the open source OpenOffice suite
- Word processor, spreadsheet, presentation, *etc.*
- Word processor emphasis on formatting, not structure
- Metadata extends Dublin Core
- Existing support in OpenOffice/StarOffice. More coming; probably not Microsoft.

Document Formats – RSS

- Really Simple Syndication
- Used to describe news-like documents
- Support for aggregation
- Not much metadata
 - title and author
- Supported by many blog systems

Metadata Formats

- Information *about* documents, not the documents themselves.
- Used to aid discovery and management of documents.
- *e.g.*, Title, Author, Date, Taxonomy, Next Review Date, Responsible Department

Metadata Formats – Dublin Core

- Intended to be *simple* set of metadata elements, emphasis on discovery
 - Coverage, Description, Type, Relation, Source, Subject, Title, Audience
 - Contributor, Creator, Publisher, Rights
 - Date, Format, Identifier, Language
- Originally for digital libraries and museums, but now broadly implemented (*e.g.*, OASIS Open Office)

Metadata Formats – METS

- Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard
- Intended to be a *rich* set of metadata elements
 - Hundreds (and extensible)
- Used by the CDL; supported by the Library of Congress
 - Emphasis on management, but also supports discovery
- Some tools available, generally for libraries

Portlet APIs

- Portals aggregate services (*portlets* or *channels*) in a manner appropriate for individual end-users.
- It's desirable to reuse portlets in different portals.
- Therefore, we need a standard API for the portal – portlet interface.
- (This hasn't existed until recently.)

Portlet APIs – JSR 168

- A Java interface for integrating *local* portlets into a portal.
- Java Community Process, October 27, 2003
- Gaining rapid acceptance among portal vendors
- Adopted by Sakai

Portlet APIs – WSRP

- A Web Services interface for integrating *remote* portlets into a portal.
 - May be implemented using local JSR 168 interfaces.
- OASIS standard, August 2003
- Gaining rapid acceptance among vendors
- Possibility for system-wide applications, such as UCFY?

Things I Noticed Today - 1

- Workflow standard?
 - ebXML, BPEL, ???
- Authentication.
 - UCTrust / Shibboleth
- Authorization
 - Roles, groups, Signet?
- Deep Linking, Searching, *etc.*
 - Content / access point organization and naming

Things I Noticed Today - 2

- “Ownership” of portlets, content
 - Metadata
 - Help Desk referrals?