

DATEX II Exchange Specification

Ricardo Fernandes Armis

DATEX II User Forum 20/21 March 2012 – Stockholm

www.easyway-its.eu

Agenda

- The challenge ahead of us
- Methodology
- The work so far
- What's next?



The challenge ahead of us – The Facts

- DATEX II provides a good and comprehensive data model for the exchange of traffic and travel information
 - D2LogicalModel
- There are several implementations of the DATEX / DATEX II specifications in-place throughout Europe
 - France
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Netherlands
 - Portugal
 - Spain
 - Sweden

...just to name a few



The challenge ahead of us – Exchange

• Using the same domain model does not necessarily mean two entities can, in fact, communicate.

• Several factors must be taken into account:

- What technical platform to use?
- What information is available for exchange?
- How to set up the communication process?
- What conditions may "trigger" the data flow?
- How to control the communication link?
- How can the information lifecycle be communicated?
- How to deal with large data sets?
- How to recover from failures?

• All of these must be part of... DATEX II Exchange!



The challenge ahead of us – Exchange Problems

• Although Exchange has been part of the DATEX specification since DATEX I:

- The Exchange part did not evolve at the same pace the Domain Model has
 - Out-dated
- Exchange PIM, Exchange PSM and Exchange Service Descriptors (WSDL) are not aligned
 - Lack of a consistent specification
- Does not address all business (and technical) needs
 - Implementers often have to come up with specific solutions



The challenge ahead of us – The Goal

- To revise the Exchange Specification according to the following principles
 - Interoperability
 - allow different DATEX II implementations to successfully engage into a data exchange process.
 - Support legacy DATEX II implementations and based on the previous specification
 - in order to maximize investments already made by stakeholders that have DATEX II based systems in place.
 - Address other user profiles and not only road operators
 - and thus make DATEX II available to a broader audience.
 - Reuse of existing standards
 - in order to reduce implementation complexity and take benefit of proven and already existent solutions for common IT problems.
 - Clear separation between the *payload content* and the exchange model



Methodology – Model Driven Architecture

- Apply the same approach used when elaborating the DATEX II content specification
- MDA Approach (top-down)!
 - First the abstract principles of Exchange need to be specified
 - Platform independent
 - Then concrete mappings to particular technologies are provided
 - Depends on the platform



Methodology – Abstract Principles

- Step 1 Identify Business Scenarios
 - Data Delivery
 - Deals with the exchange of traffic and travel information between two DATEX II nodes, as happens in the regular "Centre-to-Centre" scenario.
 - Transaction
 - To allow a DATEX II node to act directly on another DATEX II node by explicitly requesting the execution of a service.

• Step 2 – List all possible Exchange features

- There might be features that are not suitable for different exchange scenarios
- Some of the features may even collide with each other



Methodology – Abstract Principles

- Step 3 Define possible DATEX II use cases for each Business Scenario and select the appropriate set of features used to implement each one
 - The selection of features for each use case form a FEP Functional Exchange Profile
 - During this phase we plan to address 3 different use cases for the Data Delivery business scenario
 - Simple Push Exchange addresses current Push implementations
 - Simple Pull Exchange addresses current Pull implementations
 - Full Publish/Subscribe Exchange the "Nirvana" ©



Methodology – Abstract Principles

Step 4 – Produce the Platform Independent Model for Exchange – Exchange PIM

- The FEPs are modelled in a platform independent way
 - As happened with the DATEX II domain model
 - UML as modelling tool
- Features may be mandatory or optional
 - Each FEP should include such information



Methodology – Concrete Implementation

The Goal

A real world DATEX II Exchange implementation in a given technical environment

• How?

- Select a FEP suitable for the application scenario
- Select the target implementation platform
- This forms an Interoperability Domain!
 - Interoperability is only ensured for the same FEP-to-technology mapping
- ...and is specified into a Platform Specific Model PSM document



- A Specification for DATEX II Exchange
- The foundations of a "framework" that will let us easily extend the Exchange Specification depending on future needs
 - New FEPs
 - New platforms
 - New Interoperability Domains
 - FEP + platforms



The work so far – The documents

- A few documents have already been drafted
 - "DATEX II Exchange Context and Framework"
 - Details the methodology followed and provides guidance for understanding the other documents that will make part of the Specification
 - "DATEX II Exchange Use Cases"
 - Introduces the Business Scenarios addressed by the Specification
- Other documents we plan to have
 - Platform Independent Model document(s) PIM
 - Platform Specific Model document(s) PSM
- The final arrangement of the whole set of documents is yet to be defined



The work so far – Modelling phase

Depth-first approach

- To target one FEP and one platform and produce the end-to-end specification for that
 - PIM modelling (currently)
 - PSM (next step)

• FEP

Full Publish/Subscribe Exchange

Platform

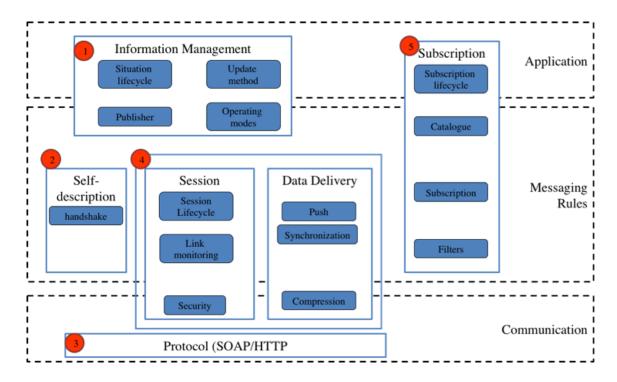
Web Services



The work so far - PIM

Context Diagram

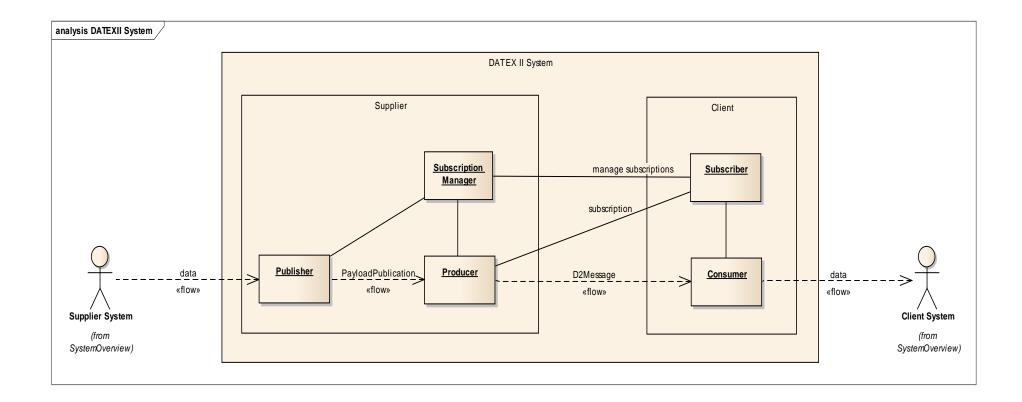
- Definition of the layers that are relevant for Exchange
- Identification of functions that should be addressed by the Specification
- How do the functions fit into the different layers





The work so far - PIM

Publish/Subscribe architecture example





What's next

• We are delivering but at a slow pace

- Achieve consensus is a difficult task!
- The Exchange model is very complex and requires more effort then we anticipated
- It is difficult to say anything about timing at this stage
 - We hope to have a better insight on the effort behind this after the first PIM-to-PSM round is done
- We are close to deliver the first PIM draft (during 2Q of 2012)
- We will then start working on the first PSM draft



• Thank you!

