The eProcurement Map

A map of activities having an impact on the development of European interoperable eProcurement solutions

August 2011

European Commission
Directorate-General for Informatics

This paper was prepared for the ISA Programme and for ePractice.eu in the context of SMART 0109/2008/SC09

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1 Introduction

There are a number of projects and initiatives in eProcurement in Europe, which tackle different subjects, issues or aspects of modernising public procurement. As is often the case, groups of experts or individuals who participate in such projects are not aware of colleagues in other European countries who work on similar projects in the same field. The eProcurement Forum, the community of eProcurement experts hosted by the ePractice portal, has gathered and analysed key activities that have an impact on the development of electronic public procurement in Europe.

These efforts have resulted in the creation of a dynamic map of these initiatives, for the use of the members of the eProcurement Forum and other interested experts. The aim is to make all eProcurement stakeholders aware of the relevant activities and actors in Europe as well as offer a tool to identify "who is doing what". The resulting eProcurement Map offers a picture of various projects, initiatives or communities, addressing different targets, audiences or approaches to eProcurement.

The previous version of this map appeared in October 2010. The present version 5 includes changes in the status of projects and documents as well as adaptations in response to comments and contributions provided by the eProcurement practitioners in Europe.

The document treats three main areas:

- Map of activities, with information on objectives, approach and contacts per activity
- Available studies, which presents results and reference documents produced by the European Commission
- Relevant legal and non legal initiatives.

2 Map of European eProcurement activities

This chapter summarises the key activities concerning electronic public procurement at European level. Sections 2.1-2.4 report on those activities which are currently running, while section 2.5 reports on those which ended between the last version of the map (October 2010) and the current version.

Activities are grouped in four categories, namely projects directly funded and performed by the Commission services, pilot activities, standardisation activities and initiatives for creating communities of experts in various areas of eProcurement.

For each activity, the following pieces of information are provided (whenever available):
- Acronym and name
- Short description of objectives
- Contact persons (for reasons of privacy, only the ePractice profile at http://www.epractice.eu/people has been included)
- Available information on each subproject or working group (description, contact persons, topics covered by each subproject, and related activities cooperating with it)

2.1 Projects and Initiatives supported by the European Commission

2.1.1 e-CERTIS

Objective/Mission: eCERTIS is a free, on-line information tool which provides details of the different certificates and attestations frequently requested in procurement procedures across the 27 Member States, the two Candidate Countries (Turkey and Croatia) and the three EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). It represents a pragmatic response to the problems encountered by economic operators and contracting authorities when submitting and receiving evidence documents within a cross-border procurement process.

eCERTIS has been designed to help both economic operators and contracting authorities, first to understand what information is being requested or provided and secondly to identify mutually acceptable equivalents. This can be done fairly quickly, using a range of search criteria, including keyword searches in their own language. eCERTIS is a reference tool and not a service of legal advice. It does not guarantee that the evidence information resulting from a query will be recognised as valid by a contracting authority. It is just an information tool which helps to identify and recognise the certificates and attestations that are most commonly requested in the context of procurement procedures of the different Member States. The information contained in the database is provided by National authorities and updated on a regular basis.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG MARKT

Contact: M. Tardioli (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/93603)

Dates (start, end): 2010 – onwards

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/markt/ecertis/login.do

More information: e-CERTIS help desk at markt-e-certis@europa.eu.int.

Approach: study, tool

Topics/phases: eTendering (eAttestation)

2.1.2 Fiscalis 2013

Objective/Mission: EU Commission initiative to:
- Enhance the fight against tax fraud;
- Continuously improve administrative procedures and practices to the benefit of administrations and business within the EU;
- Ensure the exchange of information between national tax administrations as well as with traders through projects such as trans-European tax IT systems.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG-TAXUD

Contact: National programme coordinators (country list at: http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/resources/documents/taxation/tax_cooperation/fiscalis_programme/participating/part_countries_f2013_en.pdf)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2008 – Q4 2013

Topic/phases: eInvoicing, ePayment

Website:
http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/taxation/tax_cooperation/fiscalis_programme/fiscalis2013/index_en.htm

More information: TAXUD-Fiscalis@ec.europa.eu

2.2 Pilots

2.2.1 ePRIOR - electronic PRocurement Invoicing and ORdering

Objective/Mission: Practical implementation of interoperable electronic services at pan-European level, predominantly, within the post-awarding phase of public procurement.

Description: The IDABC eInvoicing and eOrdering project was started in the summer of 2007 by DG-MARKT and DIGIT of the European Commission. The aim was to contribute to the objectives of the i2010 policy framework for the information society and media. Implementation was via a prototype and a number of pilots operating with suppliers, so as to acquire real-life experience in eInvoicing and eOrdering. Features were: the application of the RUP@EC methodology; a feasibility study and a pilot on the requirements for the use eCatalogues; and a connector to the PEPPOL infrastructure. One major accomplishment of the project was the go-live of the eProcurement platform named ePRIOR (electronic PRocurement Invoicing and ORdering) at the European Commission on the 1st of October 2009.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG-DIGIT, DG-MARKT, funded by IDABC

Contacts: A. Tosetti, head of unit DIGIT/B4, overall project owner

D. Thunus (http://www.epractice.eu/people/15626)

P. Breyne (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12256)

T. Chetcuti (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/tanyachetcuti)

Dates (start, end): Q2 2007 – Q2 2010

Approach: Pilot/Operational Platform

Topics/phases: eInvoicing eOrdering eCatalogues

Cooperation with: PEPPOL WP5 - eInvoicing, WP4 – eOrdering, WP3 - eCatalogues, WP8 - Solutions architecture, design and validation, CEN Workshop on eInvoicing Phase 2, eInvoicing Expert Group, CEN BII - Workshop on 'Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe' and CEN BII 2.

More information: http://www.epractice.eu/cases/ePRIOR, http://www.osor.eu/projects/openeprior

2.2.2 Open e-PRIOR

Objective/Mission: Open e-PRIOR is the open-source version of the e-PRIOR platform, developed and deployed by the Commission to allow the exchange of structured eProcurement documents between the Commission and its suppliers.

Description: Open e-PRIOR is the Open Source version of the abovementioned e-PRIOR platform which is currently in production at the European Commission. Additionally to its web-services interface, and to accelerate the participation of Member States in PEPPOL, Open e-PRIOR is connected to the PEPPOL network via its own PEPPOL Gateway. The interfaces of Open e-PRIOR are based on the Business Profiles defined by CEN's workshop on Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public Procurement in Europe (CEN/ISSS WS/BII). Open e-PRIOR is available to all Member States wishing to exchange standardised electronic documents via secured communication channels. In the next release the following capabilities will be added to the Open e-PRIOR platform: 1. eOrdering Profiles 2. eCatalogue Profiles 3. PEPPOL Connector.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG-DIGIT, DG-MARKT, funded by IDABC

Contacts: A. Tosetti, head of unit DIGIT/B4, overall project owner

T. Chetcuti (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/tanyachetcuti)

Dates (start, end): 25-10-2010 (v. 1.0), ongoing (current version: v. 1.2)

Approach: Pilot/Operational Platform

Topics/phases: eInvoicing eOrdering eCatalogues

Cooperation with: PEPPOL WP5 - eInvoicing, WP4 – eOrdering, WP3 - eCatalogues, WP8 - Solutions architecture, design and validation, CEN Workshop on eInvoicing Phase 2, eInvoicing Expert Group, CEN BII - Workshop on 'Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe' and CEN BII 2.

More information: http://www.osor.eu/projects/openeprior
Produced by: the IDABC eInvoicing and eOrdering project

2.2.3   PEPPOL - Pan-European Public Procurement Online

Objective/Mission: Large scale pilot to set up integrated solutions for cross border eProcurement

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG-INFSO (CIP ICT/PSP programme)

Contacts: Enrique Vich (enrique.vich@peppol.eu); PR and Recruitment Director

Dates (start, end): Q2 2008, Q4 2011

Website: http://www.peppol.eu/

Phases: eOrdering, eInvoicing, eCatalogue, eSignature

Sub-projects

WP1- eSignature

Description: Guidelines, specifications and pilot solutions to overcome the lack of interoperability among different national schemes for electronic signatures of tender documents

Contacts: Dr. M. Hagen (http://www.epractice.eu/people/5417)

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: eSignature

Cooperation with: STORK

WP2- Virtual Company Dossier

Description: Interoperable solutions for economic operators in any European country to submit certificates and attestations electronically to any procurement agency

Contacts: M.Wimmer University of Koblenz (http://www.epractice.eu/people/7317)

A. Mondorf (http://www.epractice.eu/people/11712)

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: eAttestation

WP3 – eCatalogue

Description: Interoperable solutions to manage eCatalogues used as part of a bid and for issuing orders in European Public eProcurement procedures

Contacts: G.De Stefano - CONSIP (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12322)

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: eCatalogue

Cooperation with: CEN BII 1- Workshop on 'Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe'CEN-BII 2

WP4 –eOrdering

Description: Benchmark of available solutions and implementation of pilot arrangements on the data and process level for the exchange of eOrdering documents

Contacts: S. Krammer (http://www.epractice.eu/people/14289)

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: eOrdering

Cooperation with: CEN BII 1- Workshop on 'Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe', eInvoicing and eOrdering Pilot, CEN – BII2

WP5- eInvoicing

Description: Benchmark existing eInvoicing solutions and implementation of pilot arrangements on the data and process level for the exchange of eInvoicing documents

Contacts: B. Skulason (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/2601); Icelandic State Accounting Office

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: eInvoicing

Cooperation with: ePrior eInvoicing and eOrdering Pilot, CEN BII 1- 2, CEN, eInvoicing 2 and 3 Expert Group

WP6-Project Management

Description: Project Management

Contacts: A. Hoddevik (http://www.epractice.eu/people/854)

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: Management of the Project

WP7- Consensus and awareness building

Description: Dissemination and consensus building around the project's achievements

Contacts: J. Werner (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/98217)
Approach: dissemination/cooperation set-up

Cooperation with: eProcurement Forum

WP8- Solutions architecture, design and validation

Description: Design and validation of the common specifications and building blocks which together will define the technical interoperability layer required to provide an operational e-business infrastructure

Contacts: Jens Jakob Andersen (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/9340)

Approach: Infrastructure/tools

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing

2.2.4 STORK - (Secure idenTity acrOss euRope linKed)

Objective/Mission: The aim of the STORK project is to establish a European eID Interoperability Platform that will allow citizens and businesses to establish new e-relations across borders, just by presenting their national eID.

Description: The role of the STORK platform is to identify a user who is in a session with a service provider, and to send his data to this service. Whilst the service provider may request various data items, the user always controls the data to be sent. The explicit consent of the owner of the data, i.e. of the user, is always required before his data can be sent to the service provider.

Website/case: http://www.eid-stork.eu/

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG INFSO

Contacts: ePractice European eID Observatory (http://epractice.eu/community/eureid)

J. Stienen (http://epractice.eu/en/people/7828)

A.Varghese (European Commission, DG INFSO, Unit H2)

Dates (start, end): Q2 2008, Q2 2011

Approach: pilot

Topics/phases: eSignature, eID

Cooperation with: PEPPOL WP1
More information: https://www.eid-stork.eu/index.php?option=com_processes&act=list_documents&s=1&Itemid=60&id=312

2.3 Standardisation

2.3.1 CEN BII - Workshop on 'Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe' Phase 2 (WS/BII 2)

Objective/Mission: to provide a basic framework for technical interoperability in pan-European electronic transactions, expressed as a set of technical specifications that cross-refer to relevant activities, and, in particular, are compatible with UN/CEFACT - in order to ensure global interoperability. The workshop focuses on implementation facilitations and on co-ordinating pilots implementing the technical specifications output. The requirements and final specifications are inputs for UN/CEFACT.

The starting point for the Workshop was the CEN BII Phase 1 (http://www.ds.dk/en-GB/Sectors/ICT/Bii/Sider/default.aspx).

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN

Contacts: S.Feder

Jostein Frømyr (http://epractice.eu/en/people/12164)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2010, Q1 2012

More information: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Activity/Pages/Ws_BII.aspx#

2.3.2 CEN eCAT - Multilingual eCataloguing and eClassification in eBusiness

Objective/Mission: The Workshop eCAT was originally launched in 2002 and re-launched in 2008. Its mission is multilingual issues in the electronic catalogues used for eCommerce and eBusiness in Europe. Several projects were run under these workshops, such as ePDC, gen-ePDC, ePPS and CC3P. In 2011, the Workshop eCAT is working on the CMap project "Classification and mapping for eBusiness and eProcurement".

The workshop has so far produced eight CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs), of which the most recent are:

- CWA 16100:2010 - ePPS - Guidelines for the design, implementation and operation of a product property server

- CWA 16138:2010 - CC3P: Classification and catalogue systems for public and private procurement. CC3P analyses the classification systems used in Europe for public

procurement (CPV – Common Procurement Vocabulary) and some used in the private sector (UNSPSC, GPC and eCl@ss). CC3P proposed harmonization, mapping methodologies, recommendation on their use in electronic catalogues and areas of improvement in the CPV.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN

Contacts: Dr C. Galinski (christian.galinski@chello.at)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2008

Cooperation with: PEPPOL (mainly the CC3P), CEN BII, CEB eBIF

More information: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Workshops/Pages/eCAT.aspx

Topics/phases: eCatalogue

2.3.3   CEN WS/eBES - Workshop on "e-business Board for European Standardization"

Objective/Mission: To define the guidelines for the implementation of electronic business through the use of modelling and XML, based on the work of ebXML, and taking into account the work done in UN/CEFACT

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN

Contacts: K. Ginty (http://www.epractice.eu/people/4922)
B. Longhi (bernard.longhi@blc-consultants.com)
Dates (start, end): Q2 2006

More information: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Activity/Pages/WSeBES.aspx

Sub-projects (Working Groups relevant to eProcurement)**:**

EEG1/TBG1 Supply-chain and eProcurement

Description: EEG 1/TBG 1 Europe is a European Expert Group specialising in business processes concerning supply chains, eProcurement, materials management, purchasing and electronic cataloguing, and UN/CEFACT standards development.

Contacts: M. El-Khoury (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12948)

Website: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Activity/Pages/EEG1.aspx

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eOrdering, eInvoicing, eCatalogue

EEG2/TBG3 Transport

Description: EEG2 (TBG3 Europe) deals with the transport area.

TBG3 has the primary mission to identify EDIFACT standard message requirements for the transfer of transport data and to develop and maintain United Nations Standard Messages (UNSM"s) for transport and logistics purposes. TBG3 develops the transport Business Models, the transport Core Components and Business Information Entities, in accordance with the UML and UMM methodologies, so as to develop standard XML documents for the transport and logistics sector. TBG3 also deals with the relevant Codes lists including UN Recommendations.

Contacts: D. Vankemmel

Website: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Activity/Pages/EEG2.aspx, http://www.smdg.org/tbg3

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eOrdering, eInvoicing, eCatalogue

EEG5/TBG6 Architecture, Engineering and Construction

Description: The eBES group's mission is the architecture, engineering and construction industry. The group is currently dormant, and the activity has temporarily been taken over by **UN/CEFACT Forum TBG6**

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eTendering

EEG13/TBG19 eGovernment

Description: The purpose of the group is to create business processes models and business class diagrammes for documenting business scenarios and business transactions for eGovernment. A more specific aim is to identify and formally define XML messages compliant with Commission Regulations, UN/CEFACT and CEN, that can also be used at national level. One activity of the group is on the European messages in the public procurement domain, which are exchanged between contracting entities and official publication bodies or between publication bodies, and which contain official tender notices for publication or publication-related information (eNotification). Another activity relates to the definition of processes and formats for the transfer of electronic records (eArchiving).

Contacts: D. Hardy (http://www.epractice.eu/people/3186)

S. Colas (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12307)

Website: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Activity/Pages/e-gov.aspx

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eNotification, eArchiving

2.3.4   CEN - Workshop on eInvoicing Phase 3 (CEN WS/INV3)

Objective/Mission: The work in the first two phases of the CEN eInvoicing Workshop demonstrated the need for a common stakeholder understanding of the means to implement electronic invoicing. The Expert Group on eInvoicing, set up by the European Commission, also stressed the need for a clear regulatory and policy framework for raising awareness and bringing political emphasis. The European Commission Expert Group on eInvoicing delivered its final report at the end of 2009 (see http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/ict/files/finalreport_en.pdf).

The major objective of the CEN Workshop is to provide support for a continuing technical platform to carry out the specific European work that stakeholders require, both in terms of the technical needs, as expressed in phase 2, and the recommendations of the Expert Group by producing a set of defined CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs). The overall target of Phase 3 will be integration of efforts in standardisation and other developments, mainly in the following areas:

- Standards (e-invoicing modules for business software, methodology of software tools, functionalities and specifications for business software requirements)
- Compliance (improvement of cooperation between companies and tax authorities, establishment of clear common understanding between companies and tax authorities in the EU, accessibility of rules and regulations)
- Implementation (best practice implementations with model agreements for electronic invoicing, model processes and SME-focussed best practices)
- Business processes (integration of electronic invoices in existing business processes).

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN
Contacts:
S. Engel-Flechsig (stefan@engel-flechsig.de)

A. Grangard (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/13432)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2010, Q4 2011

More information: http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Activity/Pages/eInvoicing_2.aspx, http://www.e-invoice-gateway.net/

Sub-projects (CEN Workshop Agreements, CWAs)**:**

CWA1 Development of sustainable compliance guidelines for electronic invoicing

Description: The aim is to produce a simplified version of the eInvoicing Compliance Guidelines taking into account all current and evolving principle issues

to be observed – legal and technical as well as the perspective of taxation and auditing.

CWA2 Electronic invoice processes in Europe and enablement of SMEs to use them efficiently

Description: The aim of this activity is not to list again all legal requirements, but to develop harmonised procedures and agreements between trading parties and, as far as possible, tax authorities at European level to permit harmonised cross-border invoicing.

CWA3 Conformance criteria for interoperability across eBusiness networks and services

Description: In order to foster interoperability across eBusiness networks and their services, it is proposed to define a set of conformance criteria. These conformance criteria shall be set for different levels of interoperability to provide a "stairway to interoperability". This is aimed especially at SMEs participating in eBusiness, in order to supply clear indications of the necessary steps to be taken.

CWA4 Awareness and promotion

Description: The CEN e-Invoice Gateway website (http://www.e-invoice-gateway.net) will be developed into a self-contained platform for users and an open knowledge tool. As a key requirement, the website will remain an open and neutral platform serving no commercial purposes.

Cooperation with: CEN Workshop on Business Interoperability Interfaces for public procurement in Europe (CEN WS/BII), PEPPOL.

2.3.5 European Telecommunications Standards Institute, Technical Committee for Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ETSI – TC ESI)

Objective/Mission: TC ESI is responsible for the standardisation of Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures within ETSI. Latest activities include work on the European Commission's mandate 460 on Electronic Signature Standardisation issued in December 2009. ETSI ESI work will cover the definition of a rationalised standardisation framework (in collaboration with CEN), several specification upgrades, primarily aimed at providing quick technical fixes to existing eSignature standards, and definition of test specifications.

Other activities concern printable representations of advanced electronic signatures (AdES), Registered Email (REM) interoperability profiles, Associated Signatures, a package format for associating advanced electronic signature with one or more files to which the signature applies and Extended Validation Certificates.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: ETSI

Contacts: S. Compans – ETSI (ESIsupport@etsi.org)

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eSignature, Advanced eSignatures (ADES), Registered Email (REM)

Cooperation with: CEN - Workshop on eInvoicing Phase 2, PEPPOL

More information: http://portal.etsi.org/esi/esi_activities.asp

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2.3.6 TSL plugtest

Objective/Mission: On 16 October 2009 the European Commission adopted a Decision setting out measures facilitating the use of procedures by electronic means through the 'points of single contact' under the Services Directive. One of the measures adopted by the Decision consists in the obligation for Member States to establish and publish by 28 December 2009 their "trusted list" of supervised/accredited certification service providers issuing qualified certificates to the public. The objective of this obligation is to enhance cross-border use of electronic signatures by increasing trust in electronic signatures originating from other Member States. The Decision was updated several times, with the last amendment made on 28 July 2010.

In order to allow access to the trusted lists of all Member States in an easy manner, the European Commission has published a central list with links to national "trusted lists". This central list has been created by the Directorate General for Informatics under the IDABC-programme in close collaboration with the Directorates General for the Internal Market and Services and for the Information Society and Media.

In accordance with the ETSI TS 102 231 standard, the compiled list (the European Commission list of the locations where the Trusted Lists are published as notified by Member States) is available on a secure web-site in two formats:

- Compiled list in a human readable format PDF
- Compiled list in a format suitable for automated (machine) processing XML

Sponsors or responsible organisations: ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute)

Contact: Laurent Velez (laurent.velez@etsi.org)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2010 – Q2 2011

Cooperation with: CROBIES

More information:
http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/policy/esignature/eu_legislation/trusted_lists/index_en.htm

Approach: services

Topics/phases: eSignature

2.3.7   NES - Northern European Subset

Objective/Mission: NES is a cooperation among a group of countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, UK and Iceland) and organisations to facilitate the practical use of electronic collaboration in the procurement chain, based on available international standards. The initiative comprises representation from both government and industry. The main aim of NES is to facilitate the establishment of a common platform for eProcurement among its members via support and commitment to the ongoing convergence between UBL (the Universal Business Language) and UN/CEFACT.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: NES consortium

Contacts: J. Frømyr (http://epractice.eu/en/people/12164) - EDISYS

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eTendering, eOrdering, eInvoicing, ePayment, eCatalogues

More information: http://www.nesubl.eu/

2.3.8   OASIS TC/UBL - The Universal Business Language

Objective/Mission: UBL, the Universal Business Language, is the product of an international effort to define a royalty-free library of standard electronic XML business documents such as purchase orders and invoices. The latest version is UBL 2.0, while the new release, UBL 2.1, is under its last review cycle.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: OASIS

Contacts: J. Bosak, T. McGrath (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12041), Z. Rendon, J. Bryce Clark, OASIS Staff Contact

Dates (start, end): Q1 2001

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eTendering eOrdering eInvoicing ePayment eCatalogue

Cooperation with: CEN BII - Workshop on 'Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe'

More information: http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=ubl

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2.3.9 UN/CEFACT - United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

Objective/Mission: The UN/CEFACT was established as a subsidiary, intergovernmental body of the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) Committee on Trade. Its purpose is to encourage close collaboration between governments and private businesses so as to secure interoperability for the exchange of information among and between public and private sectors.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: UNECE

Contacts: M. Doran, A. Grangard (http://www.epractice.eu/people/13432)

Approach: standardisation

More information: http://www.unece.org/cefact/

Sub-projects (of relevance to eProcurement):

International Trade and Business Group (TBG)

TBG1 - Supply Chain

Description: TBG1 develops and maintains business process and business transactions models. The semantics and the contents of the models are developed in a syntax neutral way to fulfil the requirements of the Trade and Industry communities within the framework of the UN/CEFACT Forum Supply Chain and eProcurement. The Forum covers the purchasing, material management and product development areas and supplies cross-industry eInvoicing and eOrdering schemas.

Contacts: C. Janssen, GS1 Netherlands

Website: http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/display/TBG/TBG1

Topics/phases: eOrdering, eInvoicing

Cooperation with: OASIS TC/UBL (Universal Business Language), TBG19 – eGovernment, TBGCEN eBES - Workshop on the "eBusiness Board for European Standardisation", UN/CEFACT Forum Applied Technologies Group (ATG)

TBG6 – Architecture, Engineering and Construction

Description: TBG6 is responsible for the coordination and proposal of new developments and maintenance in the area of architecture, engineering and construction, for example the elaboration of eTendering schemas

Contacts: B. Longhi (bernard.longhi@blc-consultants.com)

Website: http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/display/TBG/TBG6

Topics/phases: eTendering

Cooperation with: TBG19 – eGovernment, CEN eBES - Workshop on The e-business Board for European Standardization

TBG19 - eGovernment

Description: The purpose of TBG19 is to develop and maintain business scenarios and business transactions to facilitate the electronic delivery of services to citizens, businesses and government organisations.

Contacts: Antonio Reis (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/13284)

Didier Hardy (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/3186)

Website: http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/display/TBG/TBG19

Topics/phases:: eArchiving, Legal Notice Publication, public eProcurement

2.4 Communities and networks

2.4.1 eProcurement Forum

Objective/Mission: Community of practitioners for the exchange of eProcurement knowledge and experience

Sponsors or responsible organisations: European Commission

Contacts: J.Remuinan-Suarez (Jorge.REMUINAN-SUAREZ@ec.europa.eu)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2008

Approach: dissemination/cooperation set-up

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing

More information: http://epractice.eu/community/eprocurement

2.5   Completed Projects

2.5.1   Evaluation of eProcurement uptake

Objective/Mission: Online survey to evaluate the uptake of eProcurement especially with regards to the progress achieved under the 2004 Action Plan.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG-MARKT

Contacts: Mr. Niall Bohan

Dates (start, end): Q4 2008 – Q4 2009

Approach: evaluation via survey

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing, eCatalogue, eAttestation, eSignature, national eProcurement plans

More information: http://www.epractice.eu/node/284989

2.5.2   CROBIES - Cross-Border Interoperability of eSignatures

Objective/Mission: the objective of the study on Cross-Border Interoperability of eSignatures (CROBIES) is to propose solutions to remove barriers to cross-border interoperability of qualified electronic signatures and advanced electronic signatures based on qualified certificates.

CROBIES is based on and takes into account the relevant provisions of Directive 1999/93/EC and their national implementations as well as the standardisation work based on the Directive.

CROBIES concentrates in particular on the following issues: supervision and accreditation systems of certification service providers issuing qualified signature certificates, the establishment of a "Trusted List of supervised/accredited certification service providers"; profiles of qualified certificates and the interoperability of Secure Signature Creation Devices (SSCDs). CROBIES also proposes a model for providing guidelines and guidance for cross-border and interoperable implementation of electronic signatures.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG INFSO

Contact: G. Galler (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/3894)

Dates (start, end): Q3 2008 – Q2 2010

More information:
http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/policy/esignature/crobies_study/index_en.htm

Approach: study

Topics/phases: eSignature

Cooperation with: PEPPOL, STORK, ETSI

2.5.3   CEN eBIF - European e-Business Interoperability Forum

Objective/Mission: The eBIF aims to produce strategic recommendations on standardisation activities required to achieve interoperability solutions for eBusiness. The eBIF organised four conferences on eBusiness interoperability issues, updated the eBusiness Roadmap, facilitated the dialogue of convergence between UN-CEFACT and UBL, and supported the first phase of the Test Bed project. In 2010, discussions centred on how the eBIF could develop to support the CEN CENELEC ICT Forum and possibly become a more permanent structure in CEN. The

eBIF has been on hold since November 2010, while preparations are under way for the [second phase of the Test Bed project](#) to continue in 2011 as a CEN Workshop.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN

Contacts: P. Potgieser (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12301)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2008 – Q4 2010

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eTendering eAwarding eOrdering eInvoicing eCatalogue

Cooperation with: eInvoicing Expert Group - ST2 - Business Requirements stream

More information: http://www.cen.eu/CEN/sectors/sectors/isss/activity/Pages/ebif.aspx

2.5.4 CEN BII - Workshop on "Business Interoperability Interfaces on public procurement in Europe" Phase 1

Objective/Mission: To provide a basic framework for technical interoperability in pan-European electronic transactions, expressed as a set of technical specifications

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN

Contacts: P.Borresen (http://www.epractice.eu/people/11729)

P. Sonntagbauer (http://www.epractice.eu/people/Sonntagbauer)

More information: http://www.ds.dk/en-GB/Sectors/ICT/Bii/Sider/default.aspx, http://spec2.cenbii.eu/deliverables/cen-bii

Sub-projects

WG1 – Profile Overview

Description: To review the NES specifications and the CODICE documents/ components to produce a "Common European Procurement Subset"

Contacts: J. Frømyr (http://www.epractice.eu/people/12164)

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing

WG2 - UBL-UN/CEFACT convergence and gap analysis

Description: To ensure that the requirements of the workshop are met by the unified business documents from UN/CEFACT

Contacts: M. Forsberg (martin.forsberg@ECRU.SE)

Approach: standardisation

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing

WG3 - Toolbox for Technical Interoperability

Description: To identify a collection of tools for adopting the technical specification and ensure interoperability

Contacts: J. L. Cueva Calabia (http://www.epractice.eu/people/joseluiscueva)

Approach: infrastructure/tools

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing

Cooperation with: OASIS TC/UBL - The Universal Business Language

WG4- Evaluation guidelines for testing and pilot support

Description: To coordinate and support pilot projects on electronic procurement

Contacts: M. Christensen (mogens.christensen@logica.com)

Approach: dissemination/cooperation set-up

Topics/phases: eNoticing, eTendering, eAwarding, eOrdering, eInvoicing

2.5.5 CEN - Workshop on eInvoicing Phase 2

Objective/Mission: To stimulate further standardization work in the domain of electronic invoices in Europe

Sponsors or responsible organisations: CEN

Contacts:

S. Engel-Flechsig (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/90087)

A. Grangard (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/13432)

Dates (start, end): 2006 (phase 1), 2009

Cooperation with: ETSI TC/ESI, CEN eBES - Workshop on The e-business Board for European Standardization - TBG1 Supply-chain and eProcurement, CEN ePPE - Implementation of electronic public procurement in Europe

More information:

http://www.cen.eu/CEN/sectors/sectors/isss/activity/Pages/einvoicing_2.aspx,

http://www.e-invoice-gateway.net/

Sub-projects (CEN Workshop Agreements, CWAs)

> *CWA 16046, Adoption programme for increased eInvoicing in European business processes*
>
> *CWA 16047, eInvoicing Compliance Guidelines Commentary to the compliance Matrix*
>
> *CWA 16048, Monitoring legal requirements for cross-border eInvoicing and recommendation of changes in the legal environment*
>
> *CWA 16049, Assessing new business processes and technologies for eInvoicing*
>
> *CWA 16050, Framework for the emerging network infrastructure of eInvoicing service providers throughout Europe*

Topics/phases: eInvoicing

2.5.6   eInvoicing Expert Group

Objective/Mission: In 2008, the Commission set up a group of experts with a mandate to prepare a European eInvoicing Framework (EEIF) by the end of 2009. The framework included legal and best practice guidelines, commercial and operational rules for eInvoicing systems and technical standards. Its aim is to support the wider uptake of secure, high-quality and compatible e-invoicing services across Europe.

In November 2009, the Expert Group on eInvoicing published its final report (http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/ict/files/finalreport_en.pdf). The report defines a list of business requirements which represent necessary conditions for achieving mass adoption of eInvoicing, in particular, its widespread use by SMEs. These requirements were validated against current market reality, resulting in a number of identified gaps or areas for improvement. A set of recommendations addressing these gaps constitutes the proposed European e-Invoicing Framework, the key deliverable of the Expert Group. The report also makes recommendations with clearly defined tasks and owners as to how this framework could be implemented. The report remained open for consultation up to 26 February 2010. Responses were collected and published.

Sponsors or responsible organisations: DG-MARKT, DG-ENTR

Contacts: B.Harald (Group Chairman)

P. Calawerts (http://www.epractice.eu/en/people/14851)

Dates (start, end): Q1 2008 – Q1 2010

More information: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/ict/e-invoicing/benefits/index_en.htm

3 Reference studies

This section contains a selection of reports produced by the initiatives listed above plus key reference documents produced by the European Commission.

For each study, the following information is provided:
- Document name
- Author or person responsible
- Summary of the content
- Link for downloading

A complete list of documents relevant for the eProcurement and related topics is available at http://epractice.eu/eprocurement

In addition, IDABC edits a CD ROM which includes these reference studies, the eProcurement Demonstrators and other selected content. A free copy and more up-to-date information can be requested at eprocurement@epractice.eu.

An exhaustive list of documents with legal relevance is available at the DG Internal Market and Services website: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/e-procurement_en.htm

*Please note that the **CEN results (CWAs)** .cannot be freely uploaded on ePractice: thus please refer to the website of each single workshop to access the produced CWAs.*

3.1 Evaluation of the 2004 Action Plan for Electronic Public Procurement

Date: October 2010
Produced by: European Commission (Commission staff working document)
Description: This evaluation assesses the advances made in the adoption of e-Procurement since 2004 and the contribution of the Commission's 2004 "Action Plan for the implementation of the legal
framework for electronic public procurement" to that progress. It also identifies outstanding challenges and issues which need to be resolved. The review concludes that there is still a window of opportunity to influence development and integration within the eProcurement market, which has not yet reached a critical mass. However, the market is evolving, different national solutions are being developed and the window will not remain open for long.
Download: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/consultations/docs/2010/e-procurement/evaluation-report_en.pdf

3.2 Green Paper on expanding the use of eProcurement in the EU

Date: October 2010
Produced by: European Commission (green paper)
Description: The Commission's European Digital Agenda foresees the adoption of a Commission White Paper outlining steps that the Commission will take to establish an inter-connected eProcurement infrastructure. The Green Paper constitutes a first step towards completion of this action and the definition/implementation of an ambitious but realistic programme to harness the potential of ICT for better public procurement across the single market. The document moreover constitutes a first step towards a coordinated, ambitious and comprehensive review of the existing EU Public Procurement framework that will inform proposals for the reform of EU legislation. It will be followed by a second Green Paper addressing other issues related to the modernisation of the existing EU public procurement framework..
Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/5268693`

3.3 Summary of the responses to the Green Paper on expanding the use of eProcurement in the EU

Date: July 2011
Produced by: European Commission (Internal Market and Services Directorate General)
Description: The document provides a summary of the 77 replies to the Green Paper on expanding the use of eProcurement in the EU. This report is published together with all the individual answers where no request for confidentiality was indicated. An overview of who has replied to the Green Paper is provided first, followed by summaries of the answers to each of the fifteen questions raised in the Green Paper. The responses to the consultation reveal considerable support for making the use of eProcurement compulsory in the EU. There is broad support for EU level action, including the use of legislation, to facilitate the use of standardised eProcurement solutions.
Download: http://epractice.eu/en/library/5310977

3.4 Reaping the benefits of electronic invoicing for Europe

Date: December 2010
Produced by: European Commission (Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions)
Description: The Communication notes that the average market penetration of eInvoicing remains rather low in Europe and is currently estimated at around 5% of all invoices annually exchanged for Business to Business relations. The following priorities are addressed in the document:

- ensuring legal certainty and a clear technical environment for eInvoices to facilitate mass adoption;
- encouraging and promoting the development of open and interoperable eInvoicing solutions based on a common standard, paying particular attention to the needs of SMEs;
- supporting the uptake of eInvoicing by setting up organisational structures, such as national eInvoicing fora and a European Multi-Stakeholder Forum.

Download: http://epractice.eu/en/library/5274975

3.5 e-Catalogues Gap Analysis between pre-awarding business requirements and the post-awarding implementation in e-PRIOR - Version 1.0

Date: September 2010
Produced by: European Commission (Directorate General for Informatics)
Description: The origin of this gap analysis between the pre- and post-awarding usage of e-Catalogues is the IDABC eInvoicing and eOrdering project, which included a pilot on e-Catalogues with a number of suppliers, in a post-awarding context. The goal of this pilot was to get real-life experience with e-Catalogues at the Directorate General for Informatics (DIGIT). It was run on the e-PRIOR platform of the European Commission. e-PRIOR is designed to work in a post-award context. However, after having performed this gap analysis, it seems likely that certain components can be re-used in a pre-awarding procurement environment, interfacing the different sub-processes (e.g. an e-Tendering front-office with a back-office procurement system for e-Awarding). The gap analysis confirms a number of significant gaps, but also some matches:

- The most significant gaps are related to everything that has to do with the core e-Tendering process, such as the submission of tenders (and e-Catalogues), the opening of tenders following the four-eyes principle or the evaluation procedures of public tenders.
- The most significant matches are related to the existence of a (standard) catalogue message, tools for technical verification and the use of classification schemes.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/344054

3.6 Summary of responses to the Public Consultation on the Final Report of the Expert Group on eInvoicing

Date: May 2010

Produced by: European Commission, Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry and Directorate-General for Internal Market and Services

Description: The Expert Group on e-Invoicing presented in its final report a set of recommendations for an European Electronic Invoicing Framework, supporting the uptake of cross-border interoperable e-Invoicing solutions, with a particular focus for uptake among SMEs.

The public consultation on the final report of the Expert Group on e-Invoicing ran from 30 November 2009 to 26 February 2010. It sought to strengthen and deepen the European Commission services' understanding of the way forward to promote uptake of electronic invoicing within the EU. The objective of this consultation was to collect stakeholders' reactions on the recommendations proposed by the Expert Group on e-Invoicing in the areas of business requirements, legal framework, interoperability and standards, as well as the proposed approach for implementation and communication. All citizens and organisations were welcome to contribute. Contributions were particularly sought from SMEs, large enterprises, service providers, standardisation bodies and public authorities.

The document is a summary of the 87 responses received on the occasion of this public consultation.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/318009

3.7 Final draft reports of the Study on Cross-Border Interoperability of eSignatures (CROBIES)

Date: March 2010

Produced by: SEALED, time.lex and Siemens

Description: The CROBIES study looks at eSignature interoperability in general, but specifically in the context of cross-border use. While considering a consistent global and long term approach in proposed improvements at the legal, technical and trust levels, CROBIES is also focusing on quick wins that could substantially improve the interoperability of electronic signatures.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/320091

3.8 Final report of the Expert Group on eInvoicing

Date: November 2009

Produced by: eInvoicing Expert Group

Description: The Expert Group on e-Invoicing presented in its final report a set of recommendations for an European Electronic Invoicing Framework, supporting the uptake of cross-border interoperable e-Invoicing solutions, with a particular focus for uptake among SMEs.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/321692

3.9 The e-Catalogue Feasibility Study

Date: October 2009

Produced by:

Description: The e-Catalogue Feasibility Study is the first formal deliverable of the e-Catalogue part of the European Commission's eInvoicing and eOrdering pilot project, funded by the IDABC programme. Many common points exist between this study and the report published by the large-scale cross-border eProcurement pilot project PEPPOL, in July 2009, which outlined the necessity of a short and long term solution for the exchange of e-Catalogues. This study developed a path to standardisation (including compliance with the Common Procurement

Vocabulary (CPV) nomenclature and use of the CEN/ISSS WS/BII profiles), which provides enough flexibility to take those suppliers on board who, otherwise, would not have been able to fulfil the requirements.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/297017

3.10 Multipart standard for Advanced Electronic Signatures for Portable Document Format (PDF) documents

Date: September 2009

Produced by: ETSI TC/ESI

Description: The standard defines a series of profiles for PAdES - Advanced Electronic Signatures for Portable Document Format (PDF) documents. The new standard was developed by ETSI's Electronic Signatures and Infrastructure (ESI) Technical Committee in collaboration with PDF experts. The resulting PAdES standard, ETSI TS 102 778, also introduces a number of adaptations and extensions to PDF to satisfy the requirements of the European Directive on a "Community framework for electronic signatures" (1999/93/EC).

Download: http://pda.etsi.org/pda (search for ETSI TS 102 778)

3.11 Standard Basic eOrdering Format and Data Structure

Date: July 2009

Produced by: PEPPOL

Subproject: WP4, Deliverable D4.1

Other contributors: work done in close connection with CEN BII.

Description: The report analyses the main initiatives and standardisation approaches related to eOrdering that have been launched in the last years.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/293106

3.12 Functional, Technical, legal and organisational specifications for the development of Building Blocks Software enabling cross-border use of eCatalogues

Date: July 2009

Produced by: PEPPOL

Subproject: WP3, Deliverable D3.1

Description: The deliverable documents the first activities of PEPPOL - WP3 concerning the analysis of existing studies and initiatives, as well as legal frameworks at European and national levels which may have any relevance to eCatalogues. The deliverable comprises the analysis, synthesis and assessment of existing reports and documents.

Download:http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/293105

3.13 PEPPOL Infrastructure Open for Early Adopters

Date: May 2009

Produced by: PEPPOL

Subproject: WP8

Description: Version 0.8 of the PEPPOL infrastructure (Pan European Public Procurement) was released on 1 May 2009. The release includes a simple demonstrator business application in addition to open source software libraries and other components.

Download:http://www.epractice.eu/en/news/289667

3.14 Functional and non-functional requirements specification for the Virtual Company Dossier (VCD)

Date: May 2009

Produced by: PEPPOL

Subproject: WP2, Deliverable D2.1

Description: The deliverable documents the first activities of PEPPOL - WP2 concerning the analysis, synthesis and assessment of existing company dossier structures of individual Member States and the achievements of previously run studies from the DG-MARKT or other relevant EU bodies, and initiatives like the EU-co-funded BRITE project.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/292099

3.15 Requirements for Use of Signatures in Public Procurement Processes

Date: April 2009

Produced by: PEPPOL, Deliverable 1.1

Description: This is the first version of functional specifications for cross-border interoperability of eSignatures in Europe. The specifications are targeted at cross-border public procurement, the topic of Pan-European Public Procurement On-Line (PEPPOL).

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/en/library/292100

3.16 Analysis of Business Requirements for eInvoicing

Date: March 2009

Produced by: ePrior-eInvoicing and eOrdering Pilot

Description: The report is one of the deliverables of the IDABC eInvoicing & eOrdering pilot project; it contains the results of the business requirements gathering process for eInvoicing in a public procurement context.

Download: http://epractice.eu/en/library/288906

3.17 Preliminary Study on eCertificates and eAttestations - Final Report and National Country Profiles

Date: September 2008

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: The goal of the study is to identify if and how electronic certificates and attestations are currently issued, accepted and validated in public procurement procedures across the EU and EEA. The report consists of two volumes: Volume 1-Country reports Volume 2-Final Report

Remarks: study funded by IDABC

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281843

3.18 1st status report of the Expert Group on eInvoicing

Date: January 2008

Produced by: eInvoicing Expert Group

Description: Status report from the Expert Group on eInvoicing

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281818

3.19 Electronic Catalogues in Electronic Public Procurement- Final Report

Date: November 2007

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: A study funded by the European Commission to analyse rules and current practices on the use of eCatalogues in both public and private sectors, with a view to formulate

requirements and recommendations for their further development in public procurement. The study comprised 3 volumes:

    Volume I – eCatalogues: Report on the state of play;
    Volume II – eCatalogues: Report on standardisation activities;
    Volume III – eCatalogues: Report on preliminary functional requirements.

Remarks: Study funded by IDABC

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281801

3.20 Verification of compliance with the Public Procurement Directives

Date: September 2007

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: Report of a study for the identification, analysis and comparison of optimal mechanisms for verifying the compliance of tools and systems with the requirements of the public procurement Directives

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281800

3.21 Electronic transmission of public procurement notices for publication

Date: September 2007

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: A study to determine different scenarios for introducing a system of mandatory eNotification in a coherent regulatory and technical environment.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281802

3.22 IDABC XML Schemas for Public Procurement

Date: January 2005

Produced by: IDABC

Description: The eProcurement XML schemas initiative aimed at proposing a set of generic XML schemas to support the automation of data exchanges in different phases of electronic public procurement.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281836

3.23 Functional Requirements for eProcurement

Date: January 2005

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: Report on Functional Requirements for conducting eProcurement under the EU **Functional requirements for conducting electronic public procurement under the EU framework**

Description: This report provides functional requirements for conducting electronic public procurement under the EU legislative framework. Additionally, it provides technical solutions enriched with practices resulting the analysis in European countries and abroad. The report comprises two volumes:

- Volume I: Description and activity flows for eProcurement procedures, functional requirements, technical specifications and open issues;
- Volume II: In-depth technical analysis and scenarios to experiment with the dynamic demonstrators and further understand the concepts described.

Remarks: study funded by IDABC

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281505.

4 Legislative initiatives

4.1 New Directive on eInvoicing

Date: 13 July 2010

Produced by: Council of the European Union

Description: The new Directive (2010/45/EU) amends Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax as regards the rules on invoicing. Directive, which will be transposed by 1 January 2013, sets out new VAT rules as regards eInvoicing and removes the obstacles to its uptake. The key principles which form the foundation of the new legal framework are:

- Equality of treatment between paper and electronic invoices
- Use of business controls to guarantee the authenticity, integrity and legibility of an invoice
- Technology neutrality

Download: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:189:0001:0008:EN:PDF

4.2 Provisions relating to eProcurement introduced by the public procurement Directives 2004/17/EC13 and 2004/18/EC14

Date: March 2004

Produced by: Council of the European Union

Description: The Commission proposed modifications to the EU public procurement Directives permitting the use of electronic procedures for procurement and introducing techniques and tools which were thought to be relevant for eProcurement. Previously, EU legislation did not recognise the possibility for the use of these methods. The Commission also introduced new techniques and tools such as eAuctions and the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) to allow contracting authorities to make fuller use of electronic communications to improve procurement outcomes. These proposals were adopted and implemented in the modified public procurement Directives of March 2004. The following table summarises those provisions:

Subject	Reference in 2004/18/EC14)	Reference in 2004/17/EC13
Electronic means of communication	Articles 1.12, 1.13	Articles 1.11, 1.12
eSignatures	Article 42.5(b)	Article 48.5(b)
Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS)	Article 1.6	Article 1.5
eAuctions	Article 1.7	Article 1.6
e-Catalogues	Recital 12	Recital 20
eNotification	Articles 36.2, 36.3, 36.6	Article 44.2, 44.3
Buyer profiles	Point 2(b) of Annex VIII	Point 2(b) of Annex XX
Electronic access to documents	Article 38.6	Corresponding provision article 45.6

Download:
http://www.epractice.eu/files/Green%20Paper%20on%20expanding%20the%20use%20of%20e-Procurement%20in%20the%20EU.pdf (Table of Annex I)

5 Non-legislative initiatives

5.1 Action Plan on eSignatures and eIdentification

Date: November 2008

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: Action Plan on eSignature and eIdentification to facilitate the provision of cross-border

public services in the Single Market

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281876

5.2 New Common Procurement Vocabulary

Date: September 2008

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: New version of Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV) used to describe the subject of procurement contracts.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281871

5.3 eNotification forms

Date: October 2005

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: Standard forms for the publication of procurement notices

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281633

5.4 eProcurement Action Plan

Date: December 2004

Produced by: DG-MARKT

Description: The plan set out how the Commission and Member States could best implement the eProcurement aspects of the public procurement Directives adopted in 2004. The plan aimed to modernise the general procurement environment and to encourage Member States to automate steps in all phases of the procurement cycle. Prepared in close association with Member States and businesses, the document set an ambitious timetable for 2005-2007.

Download: http://www.epractice.eu/node/281022

Acronyms

Acronym	Description
BGCA	Bridge/Gateway Certification Authority
BII	Business Interoperability Interfaces
CA	Contracting Authority
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
CPV	Common Procurement Vocabulary
CROBIES	Cross-Border Interoperability of eSignatures
DG-DIGIT	Directorate General Information Technology
DG-ENTR	Directorate General Enterprise
DG-INFSO	Directorate General Information and Society
DG-MARKT	Directorate General for Internal Market
DG-TAXUD	Directorate General for Taxation and Customs
DPS	Dynamic Purchasing System
eBES	CEN Workshop on The e-business Board for European Standardisation
eBIF	European e-Business Interoperability Forum
EEA	European Economic Area
EEI	European Electronic Invoicing
ePPE	Electronic public procurement in Europe
ePRIOR	IDABC eInvoicing and eOrdering project for public procurement
EULab	European Public Procurement Learning Lab
ICT/PSP	Information Communication Technologies Policy support Programme
IDABC	Interoperable Delivery of European eGovernment Services to public Administrations, Business and Citizens
ISSS	Information Society Standardisation System
NES	Nothern European Subset
OASIS	Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure
TC/UBL	Universal Business Language (UBL) Technical Committee
TSL	Trusted Lists
UBL	The Universal Business Language
UN/CEFACT	United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
WP	Work programme

http://www.epractice.eu/eprocurement