



DGI Update: Your Guide to Interoperability & Conformance Test Services

September 2007

Industry Profiles: ebMS and Compression

In our last newsletter, we introduced ebMS industry profiles by taking a closer look at the ebMS XML Encryption profile which was based upon requirements from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This month we will continue our focus on ebMS industry profiles by spotlighting the ebMS Automotive Retail Profile.

STAR (Standards for Technology in Automotive Retail) is a non-profit organization comprised of dealers, manufacturers, retail system providers, and automotive-related industry organizations, with a common goal of promoting the adoption of communication and messaging standards for the benefit of its members. STAR has published detailed guidelines for Web services and ebXML Message Service 2.0 :

<http://www.starstandard.org/index.php?n=SIGARCHITECTURE.Architecture>

Drummond Group has formalized an ebMS industry test profile, the Automotive Retail Profile, in order to accelerate adoption and ensure interoperability of key STAR transport recommendations for the ebMS2 specification. These recommendations provide guidance for the payload compression techniques for ebMS2 messages, and for flexibly populating ebMS Message Header fields to signify that the message contains a STAR XML BOD payload. The payload compression guidance is based on common GZIP algorithms and is appropriate for cross-industry use where compression of large messages is desired.

AS DGI conducted ebMS testing with this industry profile, different interoperability issues were found and resolved, which resulted in a best practices consensus between testing participants and STAR members. Examples of these best practices include the stipulation to

apply payload compression before digitally signing the ebMS Message. This consensus is based on discussions with STAR members and supports field deployments where back-end systems may be responsible for compression payloads and the ebMS Message Handler responsible for digitally signing the message. Another consensus example prohibits the base64 encoding of compressed data. These best practices are not part of the Automotive Retail Profile requirements, but consensus on these issues is critical in order to achieve interoperability.

The Automotive Retail Profile has been implemented in Drummond Group ebMS interoperability test rounds since 2004 and has proven to be a valuable addition to ebMS adoption.

For more information on ebMS Interop consensus items:
http://www.drummondgroup.com/pdfs/ebMS_4Q06_Final_Report.Updated_03.21.07.pdf

2008 Drummond Test Program and Calendar Released

The 2008 Test Calendar and Services Program was released this month. Advance Enrollment Discounts are available. Some 2008 items to note:

- The number of AS2 Test profiles is growing and includes: Certificate Exchange Messaging, Filename, Filename with MDN response, Reliability, and Multiple Attachments.
- AS3 Interoperability testing will offer an optional test for transporting 500mg and 1G tests
- ebMS will be adding a required test for DSA signed message.
- Liberty's SAML 2.0 Interop test will include the GSA test profile which is now a required prerequisite for GSA

For more information on 2008, please contact
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InSitu® Technology is Awarded Patent

Drummond Group's test automation tool, InSitu®, has been awarded a patent. InSitu is used for conducting automated interoperability verification in a test and in full production business environments. It is truly revolutionary as it adds flexibility and makes it easier for companies across numerous industries and countries to complete interoperability verification in less time than ever before. InSitu has a

large install base of committed software companies and has been in use for several years delivering manpower savings, speed, scalability, reduction of time-consuming manual steps and automation for convenient testing across different time zones. “We are excited to finalize the patent process for this important technology. InSitu has become essential to managing full matrix interoperability verification testing across the globe in a time efficient manner for the participants,” says Rik Drummond, CEO Drummond Group.