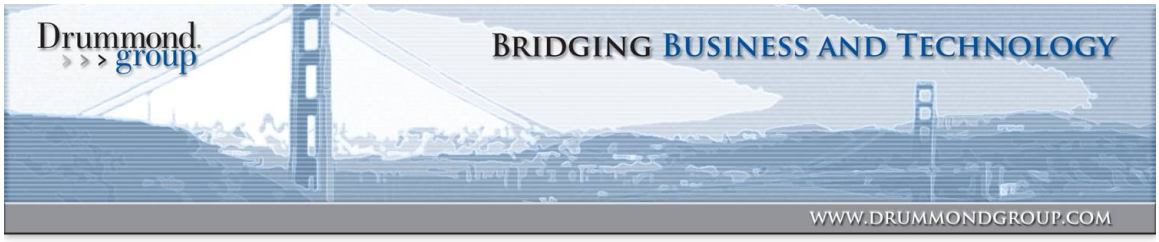

DGI Update: Your Guide to Interoperability & Conformance Test Services

December 2008

Commentary: RosettaNet Users Can Now Save Money by Purchasing Drummond Certified Interoperable AS2, ebMS, and WS Products for Messaging

In the early days of the Internet, RosettaNet emerged as a promising Internet-based technology for connecting business trading partners. RosettaNet introduced Partner Interfaces Processes (PIPs) which define business processes, and the documents (in XML) related to those business processes. In addition, it also introduced RosettaNet Implementation Framework (RNIF) to transport those documents over the Internet.

While RosettaNet and RNIF were being developed, user communities were simultaneously adopting other eBusiness transport methods such as AS2, ebMS, and Web Services. AS2 has a wide vendor base and is used globally by both small and large businesses across many industry verticals. While not as popular as AS2, ebMS has significant market penetration, especially in European and Asian markets. Web Services is currently used primarily for system integration, but there is a growing interest in its use as a business-to-business (B2B) transport. A new Web Services messaging effort (called AS4) from the OASIS standard body will use ebMS 3.0 as a foundation but follow the simplicity of the AS2 model. AS2 and ebMS 2.0 are both currently Drummond Certified for Interoperability, and the interoperability certification for AS4 (Web Services Messaging) is scheduled for fall 2009.

As many businesses invested in other transport mechanisms such as AS2, for their trading partner connectivity, RosettaNet market adoption was reduced. Studies suggest that RosettaNet-based implementations reach only the largest 10-20% of a company's suppliers, leaving the remaining 80% behind -- usually small and mid-sized suppliers.

To open up the RosettaNet market, Multiple Messaging Services (MMS) was conceived and created. MMS is a RosettaNet Foundational Program chartered to address the support of RosettaNet XML business messages and B2B

collaboration over alternatives to RNIF, such as AS2. With MMS allowing AS2 or ebMS or Web Services to be used, RosettaNet now has an alternative to RNIF.

By allowing RosettaNet to leverage AS2, ebMS, and Web Services via MMS, the integration cost is reduced for businesses which have already invested in another B2B transport, like AS2, and allows users to take advantage of the unique features of each of these RNIF alternative transports. It also expands the market for RosettaNet implementations into vertical markets which have already widely adopted AS2 (Financial, Retail, Petroleum, etc) or ebMS (Auto, Technology, etc.). In addition, RosettaNet users can now save time and related implementation costs by purchasing Drummond Certified AS2 and ebMS 2.0 interoperable products.

On August 21, 2008, RosettaNet announced the completion of MMS Validation. See press release referenced below.

RosettaNet Announces Completion of Multiple Messaging Service Validation (August 21, 2008)

Glossary
RNIF is the protocol defined by RosettaNet in 2000 and 2001. It is a secure messaging protocol that guarantees delivery of messages similar to AS2.

PIPs are the messages exchanged between trading partners that support business processes. PIPs are divided by major categories including product data, order, inventory, marketing, service and manufacturing. These are defined as XML documents.

MMS defines how to use AS/2, ebMS and Web Services to reliably exchange PIP messages.

Global eBusiness Test Bed Project

Rik Drummond, CEO of DGI, was asked to present at the recent formation meeting (Nov 21) for the CEN/ISS project to build a common global eBusiness Interoperability test bed system. The European Union along with North American and Asian partners will be working together to support eBusiness standards interoperability. Watch for further updates on this project in the coming months.