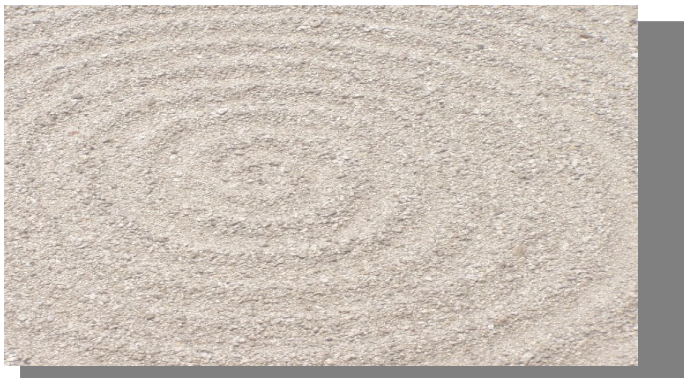


W3C-WSRI Workshop on eGovernment and the Web

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Washington, D.C.
June 2007

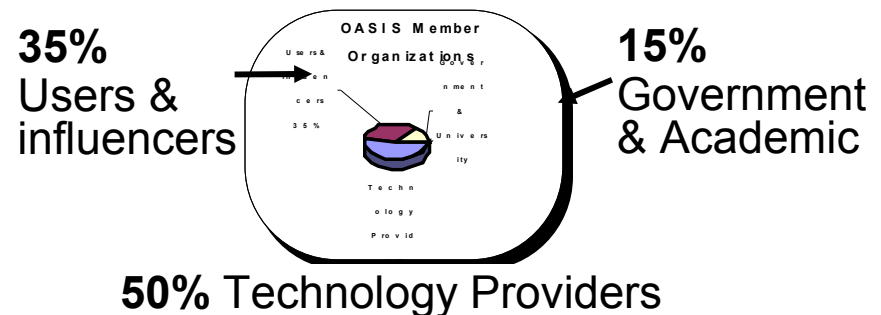
- **Says who?**
- **Reports from the front: eGovernment semantic harmonization projects**
 - **EU Auto Repair Information**
 - **Common Alerting Protocol**
 - **US NIEM**
 - **XBRL Dutch Taxonomy Project**
 - **UN/CEFACT Core Components**
- **What we can learn? What's needed?**

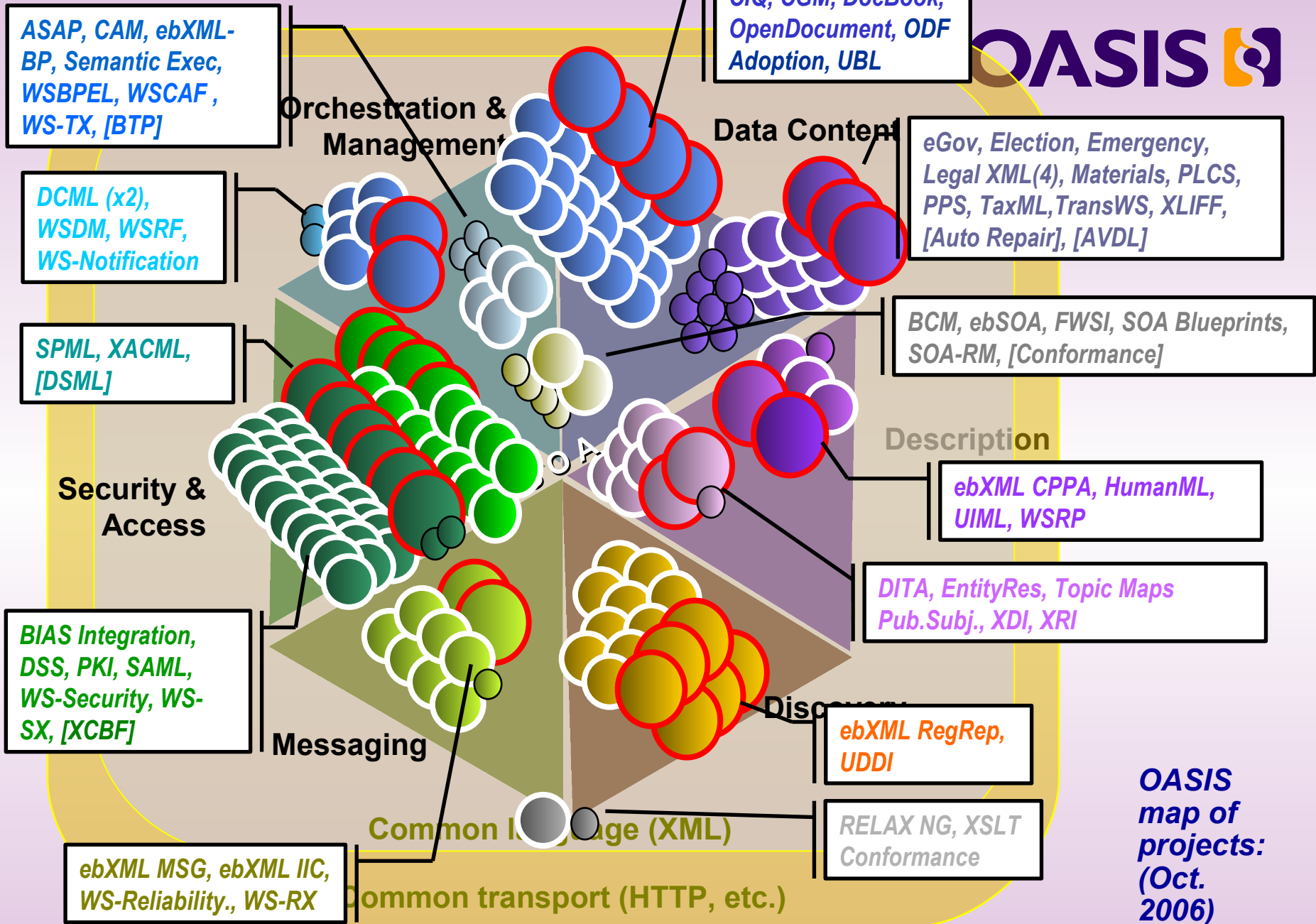
My biases: I'm a standards geek

- OASIS is a member-led, international non-profit standards consortium concentrating on global information exchange
- Over 650 members
- Over 50 technical committees producing royalty-free and RAND standards

"The largest standards group for electronic commerce on the Web"

The New York Times
ON THE WEB





**OASIS
map of
projects:
(Oct.
2006)**

ASAP, CAM, ebXML-BP, Semantic Exec, WSBPEL, WSCAF, WS-TX, [BTP]

Orchestration & Management

CIQ, CGM, DocBook, OpenDocument, ODF Adoption, UBL

Data Content

eGov, Election, Emergency, Legal XML(4), Materials, PLCS, PPS, TaxML, TransWS, XLIFF, [Auto Repair], [AVDL]

DCML (x2), WSDM, WSRF, WS-Notification

BPEL

SPML, XACML, [DSML]

XACML

ebXML

BP, ebS, A, WSI, QA Blueprints, SOA-RM, [Conformance]

Security & Access

WS-Security

Description

UBL

ebXML, PP, HumanML, UIML, WSRP

BIAS Interchange, DSS, P, WS-Security, WS-SX, [XCBF]

SAML

Messaging

UDDI

DITA, EntityRes, Topic Maps, Pub.Subj, XDI, YRI

WS-RM

ebXML MSG, ebXML IIC, WS-Reliability, WS-RX

Common transport (HTTP, etc)

ODF

RELAX NG, XSLT

OASIS map of projects: (Oct. 2006)

OASIS interoperates with the world

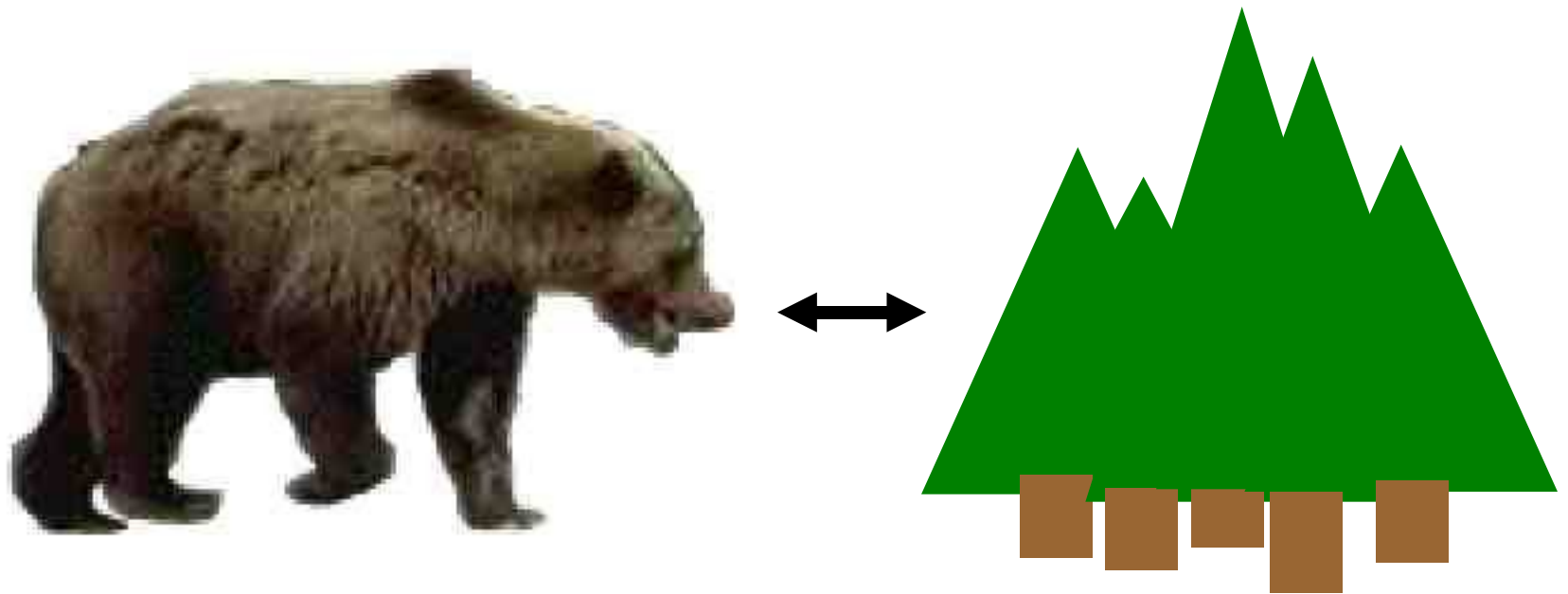
- **Cooperation, liaison and harmonization with other standards organizations is a first-class OASIS priority**
 - Working to reduce duplication, promote interoperability
 - Gaining sanction/authority & adoption for standards
- **Formal working relationships with:**
 - ISO, IEC, ITU, UN-ECE MoU for E-Business
 - ISO/IEC JTC1 SC34, ISO TC154 (category A liaisons)
 - ITU-T A.4 and A.5 recognition
 - LISA, SWIFT, UPU
 - CommerceNet, GGF, GS1/RosettaNet, IDEAlliance, OAGi, OGC, OMA, OMG/BPMI, W3C, WfMC
 - ABA, ACORD, AIAG, HL7, HR-XML, ISM, MBAA, NASPO, PISCES, LRC
 - Asia PKI, CEN/ISSS CNIS, EA-ECA, ECIF, European ICTSB, EC SEEM KIEC, PSLX, Standards-AU

What is an Open Standard?

*Increasingly, it matters to government regulators and implementers whether standards are developed under an **open, fair, vendor-neutral** process.*

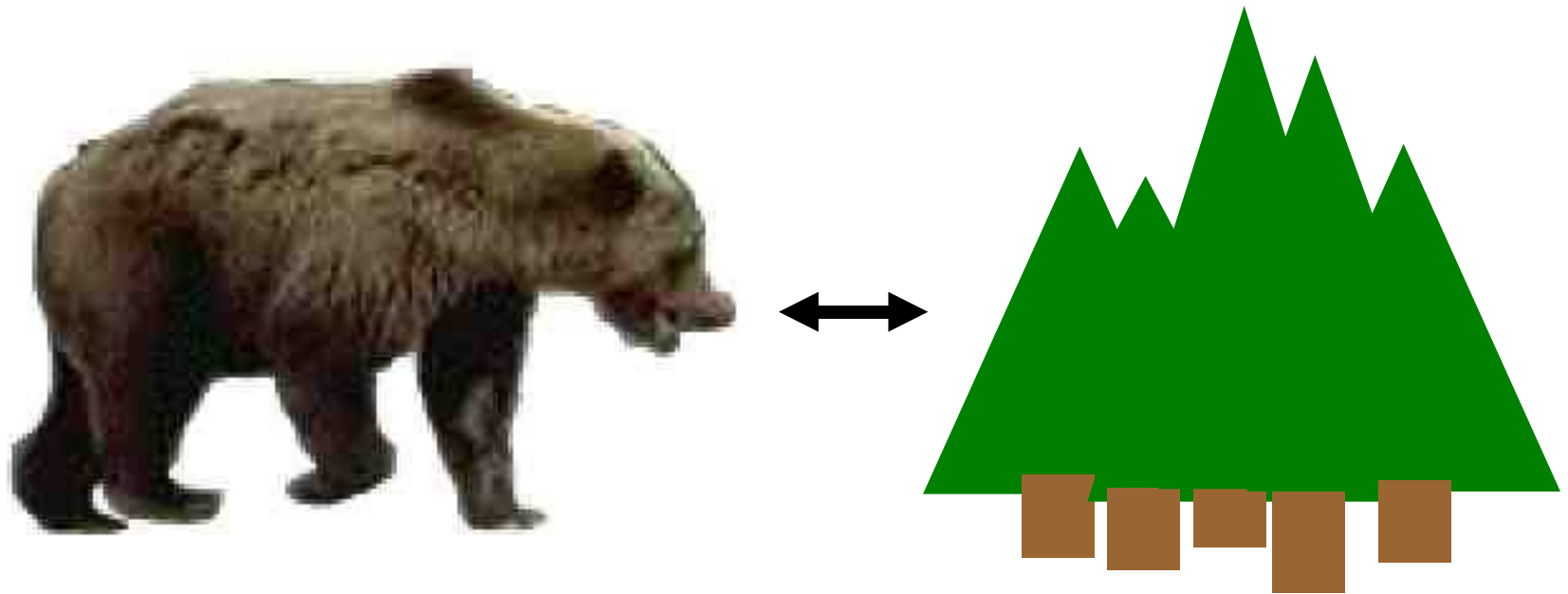
- WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement, Annex 3: http://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/final_e.htm.
- National criteria, such as: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a119/a119.html>.

*Commercial users care about
the same issues*



Reports from the front

If you want to see what the bears are doing, sometimes you need to go to the woods



Reports from the front

This talk represents personal views only: OASIS' technical program and choices are set by its members

EU Auto Repair information

- **2002-03 project to define data exchange formats for OEM data about vehicle parts:**
<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/autorepair/>
- **Stakeholders include:**
 - Automobile manufacturers
 - Independent repair shops
 - Information providers
 - EU DG Enterprise
- **Why standard? Offered as a converging, centripetal option to external regulation**

EU Auto Repair information: results

- **Technical agreement and success using RDF**
... *<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/download.php/2412/Draft%20Committee%20Specification.pdf>*
- ... also a mashup of W3C SWAP, OASIS UBL, Dublin Core, etc. etc.
- **Lack of political agreement to ratify**
- **Later adopted into regulation (See EU Directive 72/306/EEC):**
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2006-0561+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>

Common Alerting Project (CAP)

- **2003-06 project of the OASIS Emergency Management TC** (*<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/emergency>*)
- **Drivers: Epidemics, tsunamis, hurricanes, and a very heterogenous “network”**
- **Stakeholders:**
 - **First responders to emergencies**
 - **Service providers (e.g. comm) to same**
 - **Governments & intergovernmental agencies**
 - **Owners of relevant data**
- **Why standard? Solution to tragic chaos**

Common Alerting Project: Results

- **Very, very light, XML-based data structure**
http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/download.php/15135/emergency-CAPv1.1-Corrected_DOM.pdf
 - <alert>** (*msg metadata*) **<resource>** (*attachments*)
 - <info>** (*event descrip.*) **<area>** (*GML*)
- **But is it Semantics?**
- **OASIS Standard in 2004, implemented by US NOAA and USGS**
- **Cross contributed to ITU for a joint workshop and approval as an ITU Recommendation:** *<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/ictspw/index.html>*

US NIEM (nee GJXDM)

- **2002-05 Global Justice XML Data Modal project sponsored by US DOJ OJP**
<http://it.ojp.gov/jxdm/faq.html#author/>
- **2005-08(?) National Information Exchange Model, successor joint project of DOJ and DHS** *<http://www.niem.gov/>*
- **Stakeholders include:**
 - **State & federal courts**
 - **Law enforcement, intelligence & security**
 - **Information providers & vendors**
- **Why standard? Originally, interjurisdictional**

US NIEM (nee GJXDM): results?

- **GJXDM? Essentially, XML Schemas** *See also: <http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/legalxml-courtfilling/>*
- **NIEM? A bit more work on shared vocabularies and taxonomies ... but still centered on an XML data dictionary and NDR artifacts**
- **But awfully slow**
- **Some reports of the “common” pool of data elements being re-subsumed into the criminal justice “silos”**

XBRL-OASIS-NL Taxonomy Project

- **OASIS TaxXML TC & its gov't tax members have been chatting about this since 2002:**
<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tax/>
- **2007- Dutch gov't project to collect and negotiate a taxonomy across ministries:**
<http://www.xbrl-ntp.nl/english>
- **Stakeholders include:**
 - Tax administrations
 - Other gov't report receivers (finance, securities)
 - Software provider ecology (huge)
 - Reporting companies and citizens
- **Why standard? Gov't re-use, filer ease**

XBRL-OASIS-NL Taxonomy: results

- Useful reports from the TC, whose declared purpose became to ***locate*** standards, not ***create*** standards *http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/download.php/14242/OASIS_XML_Position_Paper_for_Tax_Administrations_v2-01.pdf*
- v2.0 is a mashup of OASIS (/UPU) CIQ, OECD financial work, OASIS UBL, XBRL, etc. etc. (v3.0 coming in late 2007)
- But! Global taxonomy too big a mouthful
- NL's house National Taxonomy Project will be expressed in XBRL; footed to statutory definitions (and some accounting rules)

UN/CEFACT Core Components

- **1999-2001: original ebXML project: what was cool before “web services” was invented** *<http://www.ebxml.org>*
- **2001: Core Components migrated to CEFACT; submissions of candidate data components begin**
- **Stakeholders include:**
 - e-Business
 - e-Government
 - Software vendors, emerging XML geek ecology
- **Why standard? One Ring To Rule Them All**

Core Components: results

- **2005: Core Components methodology spec approved by CEFACT (& ISO as TS 15000-5)**
- **2005-09(?): Iterative sets:** *http://www.unece.org/cefact/codesfortrade/codes_index.htm#ccl*
- **Harmonization reconciles submissions against model and library. Significant labor and judgment issues: speed and neutrality?**
- **Early implementations conform but jump ahead:**
OASIS UBL: *<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/ubl>*
Danish EU e-Invoice Law: *<http://www.oio.dk/dataudveksling/ehandel/eFaktura/OIOXMLeInvoice>*
SWIFT/ISO 20022 (UNIFI): *<http://www.iso20022.org>*

***What can we learn?
How can we help?***

Semantic Harmonization

- **Where & when is semantic tech best deployed?**
 - **Text > XML > models progressions: at what stage of readiness can KR methods effectively be applied?**
 - **Catholicity of models: RDF, OMG's UML, CEFACIT's UMM, others**
 - **Stakeholder issues: where are the boundaries? Who's willing to harmonize? What's intransigent?**

(E.g., in government, statutory definitions versus globally harmonized definitions)

Semantic Harmonization

- **What should standards bodies do?**
 - **See prelim OASIS 2007 e-Gov focus report**
(<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/download.php/24435/eGovMSGGroup-Discussion20070418a.pdf>)
 - **No more “eGov” committees please. Better: Focused, project-oriented vs. long-running panels. E.g., W3C WAI** (<http://www.w3.org/Mobile/>)
 - **Gov’t stakeholders belong in substantive projects, not generic “eGov” pigeonholes**
 - **Cooperation **across** standards groups is essential**

Semantic Harmonization

Practical successes, but mostly compromise mashups, slow, and “variable” governance

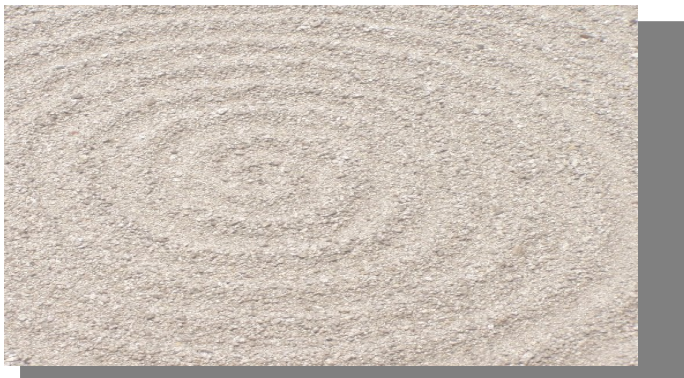
So: what roles can standards bodies take?

- Sometimes one-use taxonomy committees work -- but not all will happen in SDOs
- Can we help define semantic harmonization governance best practices?
 - Standards ***use*** versus creation. E.g., W3C WAI, for accessibility (<http://www.w3.org/WAI/>)
 - Model-level guidance. E.g., OASIS SOA Reference Model, for SOA (<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/soa-rm>)

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James Bryce Clark (*jamie.clark@oasis-open.org*) is the Director of Standards Development at OASIS. He joined the consortium's professional staff in 2003, and is responsible for supervising the operations and output of 50+ OASIS technical committees.

Jamie chaired the Electronic Commerce Subcommittee of the American Bar Association's business law section for four years and launched the ABA's first e-privacy committee. He has served as expert delegate for the U.S. State Department in the e-commerce working group of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) since 2000.

Jamie started practicing law on Wall Street in New York City in 1988. Before joining OASIS, he was general counsel to a healthcare e-commerce company, and a partner in a Los Angeles corporate law firm, handling complex finance, regulatory and Internet issues. He was an active member and editor in several standardization committees, and chaired the global ebXML joint coordinating committee in 2001-02. He holds JD and BSc degrees from the University of Minnesota. He lives in Los Angeles, with his tolerant wife and teenage daughter.

