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The Open Applications Group and ISA-SP95 announce intent to converge standards

The Open Applications Group and ISA announce their intent to work together to minimize redundancy and converge their work.

Atlanta, GA, USA; December 08 2005 – Working in support of the OpenO&M™ Initiative, the Open Applications Group and ISA-SP95 today announced their intent to converge standards for manufacturing interoperability. The groups are collaborating on development of integration standards for process, discrete, and mixed-mode manufacturers. ISA-SP95 has started this effort by including a portion of the OAGIS® standard in its soon to be published ANSI/ISA-95 Part 5 - Business to Manufacturing Transactions standard.

“Many enterprises today are struggling with the myriad of standards available to them and often don’t know which standards they should be using,” said David Connelly, CEO of the Open Applications Group. “Many of our OAGIS® users are using both ISA-95 and OAGIS® and we want to cooperate in order to simplify their efforts and provide our customers with a common solution.”

“We don’t think it makes sense to re-invent work that others have completed and proven in the field,” said Keith Unger, Chairman of the ISA-SP95 committee. “We want to leverage our best contributors from both efforts and provide a better standard for our customers. Delivery of the ISA-95 Part 4 - Object Models and Attributes of Manufacturing Operations Management standard will be greatly accelerated by leveraging the work of OAGi, and the other OpenO&M™ Initiative members.”

Bob Mick, ARC Advisory Group comments: “Interoperability in the plant to business (P2B) domain has been underserved for years with only ISA and OAGi addressing the standards needed to take this issue off the table. Only a small fraction of the work has been done and an alignment between these two organizations is one of the most significant events to happen in this area. The alignment of ISA-95 part 5 with OAGIS has been a pilot and has proven that alignment can accelerate the standards development process. What we need now is for the end users to step up and help ISA and OAGi plan deeper alignment to make P2B real interoperability a reality.”

The details and timing of the convergence efforts are under discussion now and more details will be announced as they are developed.

About the Open Applications Group

The Open Applications Group is an open, not-for-profit, and fully independent standards development organization focused on building business language standards for enterprise application interoperability. The OAGIS® standard is the largest and most implemented business language standard in the world, having been deployed in over 40 industries and in over 40 countries worldwide. The OAGIS standard covers Manufacturing, B2B, CRM, Logistics, Supply Chain, ERP, Financial, and Human Resource business functions. For more information visit <http://www.openapplications.org>.

About ISA and ISA-95

ISA is a nonprofit developer of consensus industry standards accredited by the American National Standards Institute for use by automation professionals. ISA-95 is a multi-part series of ANSI/ISA standards that define the activity models and interfaces between manufacturing functions and other enterprise functions. The goal of the standards work is to reduce the risk, cost, and errors associated with implementing these interfaces. For more information on ISA-95 and other ISA standards, please visit <http://www.isa.org>

About the OpenO&M™ Initiative

The OpenO&M™ Initiative is a virtual organization consisting of leading manufacturing standards organizations which have agreed to provide Open standards for Operations and Maintenance. This effort will enable standards based interoperability for manufacturing information systems, business processes and professionals. The current participating organizations include ISA, OPC Foundation, WBF, OAGi and MIMOSA, which acts as the coordinator of the virtual organization. For more information, please visit <http://www.mimosa.org>.