



Towards one eBusiness Language for fashion

eBIZ meeting on 31st May 2013 in Paris

Meetings notes

On Friday 31st in the centre of Paris an important step to boost eBusiness interoperability with eBIZ in the French market has been achieved.

Organized by EURATEX and UIT under the CEN eBIZ Workshop the meeting provided the **opportunity** to thoroughly present the current **state of play** of the eBIZ initiative as well to learn about **already implemented expansion of eBIZ** based digital communications (e-Business) in and for the fashion sector in France.

In particular the meeting allowed to detail the pioneering work performed by the IT supplier **Schaeffer Productique** which under the French program **ECOLTEX** has **already enabled eBIZ compatible data exchanges with about 76 French companies**.

The program ECOLTEX (textiles collective exchanges) is carried by the DGCIS (Direction générale de la compétitivité, de l'industrie et des services of the French government) in the frame of the programme TIC et PME (digital exchange of information between companies of a sector) and UTI (Union des Industries Textile) with the IT supplier Schaeffer Productique as technical partner. The connections enabled by Schaeffer Productique fit perfectly with the framework of eBIZ since the collaborative platforms established between cluster French textile companies use formats and specifications (based on ModaMI) on which the eBIZ Reference Architecture is made up. It is therefore reasonable to consider that the 60 French companies involved in ECOLTEX sum up to the hundreds of companies using eBIZ compatible digital communications in Europe.

After the opening welcome (Mr. Butaud-Stubbs, UIT Director General), two **presentations** outlined the objectives and the progresses of the eBIZ initiative including extract of testimonials from leading fashion companies and IT providers using eBIZ (reference attached presentation: Mr. Scalia, EURATEX).

The state of the art of the eBIZ Reference Architecture was provided (reference attached presentation: Mr. De Sabbata, ENEA); the RA is the guiding document allowing interoperability of digital communications in fashion and which is currently under public consultation managed by CEN.



The main part of the meeting focused on the compatibility between eBIZ and French companies participating in ECOLTEX following the presentation delivered by the IT supplier Schaeffer Productique (reference enclosed presentation: Mr. Schaeffer Productique) Among the **items discussed**: how eBIZ was identified and why was it chosen, what type of message are exchanged (e.g. orders, delivery, delays, confirmation, catalogue + picture, label, technical data etc) the use of GS1 GTIN codes, the communication link established between producers and a large distributor, features of distributions channels in the French market, availability of GS1 FR to exchange experiences.

Drawing up **conclusions** Ms. Butaud Stubbs highlighted the positive developments of French textile companies in adopting state of the art digital communication, potential benefits of interoperable digital communications for products' traceability along the supply chain, the opportunity for further dissemination in France notably through a joint participation at Premiere Vision in September. Mr. Scalia pointed out the next steps of eBIZ in particular the validation of Architecture and the future governance structure of eBIZ to be presented at the CEN eBIZ Workshop plenary meeting of 26 June in Brussels. He stressed the interest and willingness of eBIZ to deepen collaboration with the participants and with further France based stakeholders, notably also the garment industry and association, with concrete proposals to be outlined after the meeting.

Next steps, 2013:

- Circulate the meeting's notes, presentations and relevant links; Scalia
- Release meeting information to members and stakeholders; UIT and Scalia.
- Send comments about Architecture and join the CEN eBIZ workshop; all participants;
- Discuss options to support expansion of ECOLTEX results; EURATEX, ENEA, Schaeffer
- Roll out of the validator, the web-based eBIZ-compliance tool; ENEA
- Update eBIZ website listing eBIZ Workshop members and / or companies which are eBIZ compatible (separate lists), Scalia
- Presentation of results and next actions at the Plenary meeting 26th June, Scalia
- Participation at Premiere Vision in Paris, September

Participating companies /organizations:

UIT, EURATEX, ENEA, UIT sud, GS1 France, GCS Consulting, DGCIS
Excused: Lectra, Journal du Textile, MO Magazine,