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CEN/TC 434 | Electronic
invoicing

Internationalization of the European Standard on eInvoicing

eBusiness Coordination Group

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This presentation expresses the position of the above mentioned presenter. Not of CEN nor NEN.





The European Standard on e-Invoicing

- A vast number of e-invoicing standards, data formats, and usage requirements that exists across the EU and globally
- The consequence is semantic fragmentation: [Directive 2014/55/EU](#) tackle this issue requiring the publication of an European standard with a technically neutral approach
 - Specification of the semantic data model of the core elements of an electronic invoice
 - preserve the necessary flexibility through
 - Restrictions Core Invoice Usage Specifications (CIUS) (compliance to the standard is fully guaranteed)
 - Extensions (guaranteed conformance but not compliance)
 - Aim to respect different sector needs and practices



EN 16931 is published

Why is important for Europe

- Directive 55/2014 obliges central government bodies of the Member States of the European Union to accept electronic invoices in public procurement from 18 April 2019 onwards
- Member States may postpone the obligation for local authorities until the 18 April 2020
- These electronic invoices must comply with the European standard on electronic invoicing (EN 16931-1) and with one of the syntaxes on a limited list of syntaxes specified in CEN/TS 16931-2 (i.e. UBL & CII)



EN 16931 – EC - eBGC

- eBCG published the document “Best practices on the development and registration of EN 16931-1 compliant registrable Core Invoice Usage Specifications” - See eBCG page <http://bit.ly/CENeBiz> for download
- EN 16931-2 and TS 16931-2 are available free of charge thanks to EC sponsorship – see: http://bit.ly/EN_EC_CEN
- See CEF page: <http://bit.ly/EUeINV> – funding initiatives



The European Standard on e-Invoicing

- EN 16931-1 was already taken as reference in some relevant non-EU initiatives
- **The market is global: improving interoperability will help transactions – at all levels**
- **Evaluate opportunity to link to ISO 20022 and real time payment initiatives**
- US “Business Payment Coalition” project presented at the last Exchange Summit – Berlin (<http://bit.ly/USeINV>) where is stated: **“80 to 90% of the EU semantic model is applicable to the US”** – Canada is also following the initiative



EN 16931 based projects outside the EU

- The European model has been adapted in Australia/New Zealand, the “Digital Business Council” Interoperability Framework (http://bit.ly/AUS_IF) reads:

“It follows a proven approach based on the European standardisation work undertaken by the CEN BII Workshop and CEN Technical Committee 434 in their publication ‘Electronic invoicing - Semantic data model of the core elements of an electronic invoice’ (prEN 16931). Following the same approach will also aid in aligning trans-Tasman and European implementations.

The European model has been adapted for Australian and New Zealand requirements.”

- Australia and Singapore joined OpenPEPPOL: the association started a working group to adapt Peppol profiles for international use



How to do it?

- Fragmentation of the various global initiatives should be avoided
- TC 434 requirement: the standard should continue be free of charge – like now in EU
- EU should not loose the governance
- Possible way out: for example develop an **international core** with regional extensions, like VAT in EU
- Goals: to discuss in eBCG and prepare a proposal at the next TC 434 plenary

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Thanks!

Questions / discussion

