Members Approve Web Services for Remote Portlets (WSRP) 2.0 as OASIS Standard

IBM, Sun Microsystems, Microsoft, Novell, Oracle, SAP, TIBCO, Vignette and Others Collaborate on Open Standard for Integrating Web Services into Portals

Boston, MA, USA; 30 May 2008 – OASIS, the international open standards consortium, today announced that its members have approved the Web Services for Remote Portlets (WSRP) version 2.0 as an OASIS Standard, a status that signifies the highest level of ratification. Developed through an open process by the OASIS WSRP Technical Committee, the new standard simplifies the effort required for aggregating applications, such as portals, to quickly integrate remote content and applications.

“Vendors of aggregating applications no longer need to write special adapters to accommodate the variety of interfaces and protocols used by content providers,” explained Rich Thompson of IBM, chair of the OASIS WSRP Technical Committee. “With WSRP, they can integrate remote content and applications with just a few mouse clicks and virtually no programming effort. WSRP version 2.0 adds those capabilities needed to fully integrate the remote components into the aggregated application.”

Since its approval in 2003, version 1.0 of WSRP has been widely used for promulgating information services (in the form of elemental building blocks of displayed information), and consuming and assembling them heterogeneously in portals and other re-uses. WSRP version 2.0 adds consumer-mediated coordination, additional life cycle management, a set of related aggregation enhancements, and a machine-readable means to describe protocol extensions. The consumer-mediated coordination includes both eventing and shared state styles of coordination. The life cycle management additions include the ability to lease resources for automatic cleanup of unused resources and for moving portlet customizations across various boundaries.
“WSRP enables content producers to maintain control over the code that formats the presentation of their content,” explained James Bryce Clark, director of standards development at OASIS. “This encourages portletization, by increasing confidence that the data can be re-used in correct display and context. At the same time, WSRP reduces the cost and hassle for aggregators to access this content, making content sources more easily integrated into end-user presentations.”

Successful use of WSRP 2.0 was verified by OASIS Foundational Sponsor, IBM, and by Sponsors, Oracle and Vignette, in accordance with eligibility requirements for all OASIS Standards. WSRP 2.0 was developed under the Royalty-Free on Limited Terms Mode of the OASIS Intellectual Property Rights Policy.

Participation in the WSRP Committee remains open to all companies, non-profit groups, government agencies, academic institutions, and individuals. Archives of the work are publicly accessible, and OASIS offers a mechanism for public comment. The committee plans to continue its work with a focus on protocol extensions that multiple implementers agree would be valuable to define at a level broader than a single implementation.

**Support for WSRP 2.0**

**IBM**

“IBM is pleased to see that WSRP 2.0 has been approved by OASIS as a formal standard. As a leader in the two major portal standards updates - WSRP 2.0 and Java Portlet Specification 2.0 (JSR 286) - we recognize their importance in helping our customers implement the services-oriented architectures they need to drive their businesses. The richer set of functionality and new portlet coordination mechanisms will allow customers to more easily build more powerful mashups where applications can communicate with each other in an interoperable manner across multiple portal products,” says Larry Bowden IBM Vice President Portals and Mashups “We plan to support these standards with our new upcoming WebSphere Portal 6.1 release which will be available soon. Interoperability with other vendors has already been tested successfully.”

**Sun Microsystems**

“Sun is excited about the approval of WSRP 2.0 and how it will facilitate many new architectural possibilities in combination with Java, Scripting, and SOA development,” said Martin Knutson Executive Director, Java Enterprise System and Portal Products, Sun Microsystems. “This also includes new possibilities for portals and web platforms in combination with simple REST-based services allowing Portal as a Services or even Web Presentation as a Service.”

**Vignette**

“The ratification of WSRP 2.0 as an OASIS standard is a major milestone that our customers have been eagerly waiting for. We are proud of our contribution in this process,” said Somesh Singh,
senior vice president of research and development and technical operations at Vignette. “As an active member of OASIS, Vignette helped draft the WSRP 2.0 standard and has been among the first to implement the guidelines in the latest release of Vignette Portal.”

Additional information:

OASIS WSRP Technical Committee
http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/wsrp/

WSRP FAQ
http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/wsrp/faq.php

About OASIS:
OASIS (Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards), drives the development, convergence, and adoption of open standards for the global information society. A not-for-profit consortium, OASIS advances standards for SOA, security, Web services, documents, e-commerce, government and law, localisation, supply chains, XML processing, and other areas of need identified by its members. OASIS open standards offer the potential to lower cost, stimulate innovation, grow global markets, and protect the right of free choice of technology. The consortium has more than 5,000 participants representing over 600 organizations and individual members in 100 countries. http://www.oasis-open.org

Press contact:
Carol Geyer
OASIS Director of Communications
carol.geyer@oasis-open.org
+1.978.667.5115 x209 (office)
+1.941.284.0403 (mobile)