ASPECT
Vocabulary Bank for Education
&
Application Profile Registry

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Disclaimer

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VBE Overview

• Repository/Bank functions:
  – management
  – dissemination

• Content:
  – vocabularies
  – thesauri
  – controlled lists
  – Etc.

• Scope
  – content relevant to the Aspect project
VBE Features

• Allows different organisations (authorities) to manage only their own data but to re-use and/or map to any other data

• Alerts interested parties and systems about changes to data

• Manages the lifecycle and history of vocabularies

• Provides multi-format, multi-lingual versions of vocabularies
User Interface
Machine Interfaces

• RESTful APIs
  – designed to allow remote systems and users to quickly and easily interact with the repository
  – search function accessed via a SOLR search API

• RSS alerts to most recent changes

• upload vocabularies directly via the user interface

• download vocabularies via the user interface or API
Using the API

• Two main scenarios:
  – Live in real time for each request
    • **Advantage**: Always retrieve the latest version and no management overhead on local system
    • **Disadvantage**: batch processing speeds, latencies and performance issues related to reliance on real time link
  – Create local copy and synchronise
    • **Advantage**: Always a local copy so no external dependency
    • **Disadvantage**: Need to manage the local copy and updates
Real time access

- Access the vocabulary ‘header’
- Access top terms/concepts
- Access individual terms
- **Reason** call for all broader terms

Note: All calls available for *any* historical revision
Synchronised local copy

- Check the whole repository to see if any changes
- Check individual vocabularies
- Get differences
- Download whole revision (or differences) in particular format
APR Overview

• Registry functions:
  – describe profiles
  – Compare profiles
  – link to definitive source (e.g. data model, schema)

• Content:
  – core standards (e.g. LOM)
  – profiles of core standards

• Scope
  – profiles relevant to the Aspect project
### Profile List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Specification Type</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Basedon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IEEE LOM</td>
<td>Core Standard</td>
<td>Learning Object Metadata</td>
<td>IEEE LOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRE Metadata Application Profile</td>
<td>Profile</td>
<td>Learning Resource Exchange</td>
<td>IEEE LOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iCOPER LOM Profile</td>
<td>Profile</td>
<td>ICOPER</td>
<td>IEEE LOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK LOM Core</td>
<td>Profile</td>
<td>JISC</td>
<td>IEEE LOM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APR Features

• user interface to allow profiles to be defined
• profiles inherit properties from parent (core standard or another profile) using ‘based on’
• registers details of authorities and namespaces
• provides mappings between profiles
• element vocabulary field links to VBE