



CSIO Standards – 2004 in Review

PRESS RELEASE

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CSIO STANDARDS – A YEAR IN REVIEW

CSIO XML Standards

2004 proved to be another fantastic year for XML Standards. More and more organizations are moving to XML and the role that the CSIO Standards play has increased once again. XML may just be that common denominator that helps move the insurance industry away from its legacy of manual processes. The beginning of the year kicked off with the annual XML Focus meeting setting the bar for 2004. During the year three CSIO XML publications hit the street -releases 3.0.0, 3.1.0 and 3.2.0. Special attention was given to legislative changes for automobile, element mappings and Portal implementation requirements.

CSIO EDI Standards Personal Lines

Early in January, representatives from the different provinces met with CSIO to produce Umbrella standards for personal lines insurance. Our March and September EDI/XML National Standards Workgroups continued to play a leadership role in enhancing the Standards with approval of numerous business requirements maintenance requests. Member efforts resulted in publication of the 2004 Standards Directory including three interim Standards Directory on-line versions. In the latter part of the year a number of additional special workgroups were held to amend Standards in accordance with the recent Alberta and New Brunswick's auto insurance reforms and Quebec's amendment on insurance premium taxation. As well two special workgroups attacked some specific issues related to the Portal and brought the Solid Fuel Heating Standards in line with the current underwriting process.

As usual, membership also contributed this year to enhancing the electronic communication between trading partners by providing feedback and guidance on EDI implementation topics through our quarterly **e-Partners Open Forum (EPOF)** and **e-Partners Vendor Forums (EPVFs)**. Company representatives and a number of our brokers met with Applied Systems, CIM-Data, Keal Technology, Zycomp (PowerBroker) and Tec4. And Bell gave an account of their work effort to improve CSIONet. Each of the EPOF meetings filled to overflowing our large meeting room!

CSIO EDI Standards Commercial Lines

Our comprehensive suite of business requirements for Commercial Lines is anxiously awaiting the progression to XML. 2005 will in all likelihood be the year for Commercial Lines!

Standards Training

Training in CSIO Standards is an important facet of our activity. During 2004, three **EDI Implementation Workshops** were offered - two in Toronto and one in French in Quebec City. In total, 32 new participants learned about implementing CSIO EDI Standards! CSIO's **Demystifying EDI Seminar** was offered for the first time in French to Quebec brokers who were interested in acquiring a working knowledge of the Standards and tips on how to make EDI more efficient regardless of the Broker Management System used. A one-day **XML Standards Seminar** was held in Toronto along with an XML tool workshop. 17 participants enhanced their knowledge of the CSIO XML Standards.

CSIO Standard Forms

The Additional Named Insured Form including a French version for it and the Commercial General Liability Insurance Application, were developed and released in 2004. Work was commenced on the Certificate of Insurance/Reduction Coverage Form and the re-design of the Solid Fuel Heating Questionnaire. We expect both will be published in early 2005.

Standard Terminology

Another project that kept CSIO busy was the updating of Standards Terminology. Some 560 new terms - insurance and technical were added for use by the P&C industry. Compliments on our work in this open Standard have been received from as far away as the Middle East.

Participation

CSIO continued to increase its member base with the addition of two new Quebec mutual companies, Promutel Levisienne-Orleans and Promutuel Valmont. In addition one new vendor joined CSIO, Promutuel Innovation. Welcome to our new members!

This year, with the many hours of work our membership contributed to our CSIO meetings, we can say that 2004 was indeed a busy year for Standards. We wish to thank everybody for their continued participation in the success of our Standards programmes! A special thanks goes out to all those who volunteered their effort and time as well as to the support given to CSIO by all of our member organizations from the largest to the smallest. Thank you!

For more information on current and future events and industry meetings, please visit:
www.csio.com/en/calendar/events.html.