EDItX International Steering Committee Minutes

Wednesday 10th October 2018, 9:15-10:00 GMT (UTC+2), Room Consens, Hall 4.C, Frankfurt Book Fair

Attendees:

Luc Audrain (Hachette Livre) Chair
Graham Bell (EDItEUR, chair)
Maria Börman (Bokinfo)
Francis Cave (Consultant -EDItEUR)
Noah Genner (BookNet Canada)
Brian O'Leary (BISG)

Christer Perslöv (Bokinfo)
Johanna Roden (Bokinfo)
Chris Saynor (EDItEUR)
Ketil Stadskleiv (Bokbasen)
Karina Urquhart (BIC)

Main Points : Approval of updated Inventory Report, Sales Report and Sales Tax Report

Priorities for next messages to be updated – Trade Messages – Order and response, Stock Enquiry and Response / Status , Invoice and responses, Advanced Ship Notice.

1. **Welcome and introductions** [Chair]

   LA opened the meeting, welcomed the attendees and commented on the increase attendance and the growing importance of EDItX. The members of the Steering Committee introduced themselves.

2. **Minutes of last meeting held 11th April 2018, and matters arising** [Chair]

   LA introduced the minutes of the meeting held at the 2018 London Book Fair. There were no comments, and the minutes were approved.

3. **Report on current EDItX activities** [CS]

   CS introduced his report (separate document). He reported that since the meeting in London EDItEUR has been working on updating the three messages, the Inventory report, the Sales Report and the Sales Tax report. Updated xsd schemas and two html documents, one for Inventory report and a combined one for the Sales / Sales Tax reports. These are similar in format to ONIX for Books documentation, have been circulated to members of the EISC. CS explained that EDItEUR has looked at how to harmonise and ONIX for Books usage, so the two messages will use the same tags and codelists where appropriate. Where there are tags that are now using their ONIX equivalent, these are now shown as a preferred tag and the existing EDItX tag has been shown as an alias, so these will still validate in the updated version of EDItX.

   For the codelists when there is also an appropriate ONIX for Books equivalent code list then the EDItX reports will now accept these and these will eventually replace EDItX code lists in future versions.

   CS then went onto the talk about the updates to the EDItX Inventory Report. The new update will be version 1.1 and includes new elements and functionality. There is a new tag <EpubInventoryStatus> and an optional note <EpubInventoryNote> in the message detail and the new tag <NumberOfProductsByInventoryStatus> in the totals, so that the numbers can be reported. CS reported this is accompanied by a new code list unique to EDItX, inventory status types, to report on digital and POD inventory. CS reported that to harmonise with the Sales / Sales Tax reports the option to add <SupplierParty>, <RecievingParty> and <SellingAgentParty> have been added to the Inventory Report. The <ReferenceCoded> section has also been harmonised with the Sales / Sales Tax report.

CS then moved on to reporting on the updated version of the Sales / Sales Tax reports which will be version 1.2. These messages have been updated to allow them to carry the same price information as that can be sent in ONIX for Books 3.0.4. The existing trading zone, the area the reports cover, has been updated to allow for the same territory status as in ONIX for Books 3.0. Within the detail of the reports, the ONIX 3.0 composites <EpubUsageConstraint>, <EpubLicence> and <PriceConditionComposite> have been added to allow for reporting of sales of products with prices that are dependent on one or more of these elements. The composites have the same structure as ONIX for Books 3.0 but are not in the same position in relation to the price as in reporting the price may be repeated to show original cost price and actual selling price, but all the added composites remain the same. The positions in the EDItX message is to avoid unnecessary repetition. GB pointed out if the constraints change then you would use a new line item. CS went on to say that to match ONIX 3.0.4 that inside <PricingDetail> the price structure now allows for the report to include <PriceIdentifier> , <PriceType> which CS said used ONIX code list 58 plus two extra codes for actual selling prices with and without tax, which would not be suitable for ONIX for Books. He said you can now also send <PriceQualifier> and use ONIX code list 59 in the reports. The reports have also been updated to allow for the <CurrencyCode> or <Tax> to be qualified with the same <Territory> composite as exists n ONIX 3.0 to allow for more complex territorial structures and also the ability to just include a region, from ONIX code list 49. CS said you can now report different tax rates in different sub regions of a country. CS stated that a lot of the updates were so tat if you could send a business model / price structure in ONIX 3.0 you could report it back in EDItX.

CS said the final addition to the Sales / Sales Tax reports was a new </TaxExempt> flag to allow reporting on when a sale of a product or to a particular institution has been exempted from tax. CS reminded the group that this was not the same as 0% tax.

LA asked for comments. CP said Bokinfo was already using the ONIX code lists with EDItX and so would the two extra codes be added to ONIX code list 58? CS confirmed that they would not be as they would never be used in ONIX as they were only to indicate a price was sold at if it was different from any price sent in ONIX. GB said all the standard applicable ONIX code lists were included in the EDItX xsd schemas but if you used one of the two extra codes, the xsd would validate these as they were included in the xsd version for the sales / sales tax reports as part of list 58. LA asked if new codes were added to list 58 would the EDItX schema automatically benefit. GB confirmed this was the case for list 58 and for any code list that was now shared by ONIX and EDItX. GB also confirmed that for the moment for the existing EDItX lists that used words you can carry on using these or use the ONIX code lists that use numbers. FC asked about the <EpubInventoryStatus> use case. GB said this was to avoid the necessity of a publisher having to scrape a resellers site or to manually check if titles were on sale and then to request a reason if they were not. This can take a long time, so the new status allows a report back automatically on the current statuses of all a publisher's digital inventory or POD inventory. It will be an easier feedback process to allow better communication between reseller and publisher / distributor. LA said Hachette often uses excel files that resellers send them and compare these with an excel of what they sent and so the update is real solution to a real problem. FC said this was a solution to a real problem and people would start using this. KU asked if the e-book being on sale was dependent on a manual process generally or was it more automatic. GB said most resellers / distributors processes would be automatic or semi-automatic. Once certain criteria are met by distributor or reseller, such as QA checks or metadata checks, the presence of master file, enough metadata to create the details on the reseller site, to add a buy button and so on. KU asked if the reporting back could be automatic. GB confirmed this was the case, once a reseller / distributor /publisher had developed it. It would allow for greater atomisation of the reporting process. NG said he had seen that often on the excels that there were problems with the rights territories, so they were not sure if the product could be sold in Canada. GB said with the new EDItX codelists a reseller can indicate, for example, that they have the Masterfile but that there is a problem with the metadata. GB said this list could be extended in the same way as the ONIX code lists, to include things like the sales rights are incomplete.

CS says the new documents are complete except for the sample messages. CS also said if the EISC agreed to the proposed updates to the three reports then the same approach would be taken with all the EDItX messages, that is harmonising tags, integrating ONIX 3 composites as appropriate and using ONIX code lists. FC asked about the code lists in EDItX where there were no ONIX equivalents was there an idea to convert these to numeric codes like the ONIX code lists. GB said EDItEUR had thought of this but there seemed to be no particular value in changing them when there was no ONIX equivalent. Using the ONIX code lists where appropriate was more about familiarity and ease of use. If, however the group wanted EDItEUR to look at moving EDItX code lists to numerical codes in the future they would. FC said there were numeric equivalents to the EDItX codes in BIC Real Time. GB said he was not aware of this and that might be a reason not to change the EDItX lists but to at least include the Real Time numerical equivalents. GB said EDItEUR would look at this with FC and release an update to the EDItX code lists file.

CS moved on to the last point of his report which was to review the priorities for the next EDItX messages to be updated if the EISC were happy with the proposed updates to the three reports. CS said the next messages to be updated should be the Trade Book Supply and that the first ones should be Order and Order response, Stock Enquiry and Response / Status Report. FC said that Order and Order Response are in Bic Real Time so the question of codelists was important. CS asked if this processed list of priorities met the needs of the EISC. FC said that in BIC they had been looking at PEPPOL[1], a standard used widely by governments for procurement and that the most widely implemented messages are Order / Order Response plus Invoice. There needs to be mappings or gateways to these standards for government procurement. GB asked KS about Norway as he had been told that the Government in Norway had mandated the use of PEPPOL based e-commerce in all sectors, but GB thought it might have been mandated only some sectors. KS said he did not know the details, but he could confirm that if you did any trade with any government department you had to support electronic invoicing, using a Norwegian standard and some of these go to PEPPOL hubs. FC said he understood that the EU adopted the Norwegian approach and the name PEPPOL came out of this process. GB said most people use a gateway to convert their existing standard message into a PEPPOL message. CS asked if EDItEUR should look at Invoice and related messages as well. FC said it would be a good idea.

LA then thanked CS and asked if the EISC approved the changes to the three reports. There were no objections, so the changes were approved. GB said there would be a formal publication at the end of the month. BO'L asked if EDItEUR did a press release when the updates were formally published. GB said it would be announced in the mailing list. BO'L would like to promote the EDItX messages in the USA. LA said it would be a good idea to plan an event for Frankfurt 2019 around EDItX messages and to include something on Real Time. He emphasised how important it was to communicate about these updates because they take into account the new and real challenges in the digital markets and the changing business models. BO'L said he could write an article about EDItX and Real time for the BISG newsletter. LA said by next Frankfurt there should be more examples of real use and he also thanked KS for providing sample EDItX messages from Norway.

FC asked BO'L what the implications were for the flat files used in the US market. BO'L said he felt the updates would show the limitations of the flat file report format and also help with understanding of the importance of using ONIX 3.0. GB asked if there was a flat file version of the Inventory Report. FC said there was not. NG said that there were a lot of non-standard flat files for inventory in common use in North America and also X12 is used a lot in North America. He said there would probably be little movement away from X12 in North America but that Sales / Sales Tax reports could be of interest to some of the larger resellers and their main trading partners.

---

[1] Pan-European Public Procurement Online - https://peppol.eu/what-is-peppol/

4. Updates on adoptions from user groups

LA then moved on to ask if there were any updates from other user groups. He asked Sweden and MB said they already use Order and Order Response, they are looking at ASN (Advanced Ship Notice) and have also started looking at the Sales and Inventory Reports. Lots of bookshops use EDItX in Sweden.

KS said in Norway they were starting a project to update the use of trade orders, particularly with digital learning tools. They are reviewing the format and will feedback any thigs they see are lacking in the current message. He also said there may be a need for some new Party Identifiers for the Norwegian market and he would communicate these to EDItEUR if they were needed.

KU said the Library webservices based on BIC Real Time has nearly completed. FC said that for Library Webservices they had decided to make it useable in xml or json and that next time they updated BIC Real Time they would also allow for use of json as well as xml. GB said with EDItX it was simpler than with ONIX to turn into json. EDItX did not use attributes in xml so simpler to also use in json as it would be nearly a one to one. The only negative that GB saw was the current state of json schema.

NG said they are using some BIC Real Time messages in Canada but mostly using X12. They are looking at ASN use in Canada but the only interest in EDItX is the Sales Reporting.

.

5. Any other business [Chair]

There was no other business.

6. Next meeting [Chair]

LA said the next meeting would be on the second day of the London Book Fair (Wed 13th March 2019).

Chris Saynor
EDItEUR
23/10/18