
CWA 17025-114:2016

 **NBN**



Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public Procurement in Europe - Architecture - Part 114: Attachments Handling guideline

Valid from 01-06-2016

ICS: 03.100.10, 35.240.20, 35.240.60

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CEN

WORKSHOP

AGREEMENT

CWA 17025-114

May 2016

ICS 03.100.10; 35.240.20; 35.240.60

English version

Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public Procurement in Europe - Architecture - Part 114: Attachments Handling guideline

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European foreword

CWA 17025-114, **Attachments Handling guideline** was developed in accordance with CEN-CENELEC Guide 29 “CEN/CENELEC Workshop Agreements – The way to rapid agreement” and with the relevant provisions of CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations - Part 2. It was agreed on 2015-12-02 in a Workshop by representatives of interested parties, approved and supported by CEN following a public call for participation made on 2013-02-20. It does not necessarily reflect the views of all stakeholders that might have an interest in its subject matter.

The final text of CWA 17025 was submitted to CEN for publication on 2016-04-20. It was developed and approved by:

- Agency for public Management and eGovernment (DIFI), NO
- Agenzia delle entrate, IT
- ANAC, Autorità Nazionale Anticorruzione (formerly AVCP), IT
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This CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) has been drafted and approved by the Workshop on **Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public procurement in Europe (BII)**, phase 3.

CWA 17025 is part of a set of CWAs prepared by CEN WS/BII 3¹:

- CWA 17025:2016 Methodology and Architecture
- CWA 17026:2016 Notification profiles and transactions
- CWA 17027:2016 Tendering profiles and transactions
- CWA 17028:2016 Catalogue profiles and transactions
- CWA 17029:2016 Post-award profiles and transactions

CWA 17025 part 114 replaces CWA 16558:2012- Annex J.

CWA 17025 consists of:

- CWA 17025-1 Overview and Architecture
- CWA 17025-101 Conformance and Customization Methodology guideline
- CWA 17025-102 Code List and Identifier Management specification
- CWA 17025-103 Business Document and Envelope guideline
- CWA 17025-104 Profile Architecture specification
- CWA 17025-105 Conformance Registry specification
- CWA 17025-106 Open Procurement Data report
- CWA 17025-107 Message Level Response guideline
- CWA 17025-108 Use of Digital Signature and Other Trust Services

¹ In order to ease the reading the CWAs provided by the CEN BII initiative, they are also made available on <http://www.cenbii.eu> together with explanatory notes and supporting material. The official version is however the version as published by CEN.

CWA 17025-109 Guideline on the Concept of Core
 CWA 17025-110 Profile Maintenance Process specification
 CWA 17025-111 Capturing Business Requirements specification
 CWA 17025-112 Syntax Implementations Guideline Methodology guideline
 CWA 17025-113 Business Rules Description Mechanism guideline
 CWA 17025-114 Attachments Handling guideline
 CWA 17025-115 Semantic Data Type guideline
 CWA 17025-116 Glossary and Business Term Vocabulary
 CWA 17025-203 BDE Syntax Implementation Guideline for Messaging Envelope
 CWA 17025-207 UBL Syntax Implementation Guideline for Message Level Response

A detailed overview of all CWA 17025 parts can be found in CWA 17025 part 1.

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Introduction

The first CEN BII Workshop was established in May 2007 with the objective of harmonising electronic procurement in Europe. The CEN BII initiative, which now comprises a further two CEN Workshops, is a standardisation activity within CEN (European Committee for Standardisation). It provides a framework for interoperability in pan-European electronic transactions expressed as a set of technical specifications.

During the second phase of the initiative (CEN WS/BII 2) a set of technical specifications – “CEN BII Profiles” – were documented and published as five CEN Workshop Agreements (CWAs), which are currently used across Europe. The profiles are designed to facilitate effective public e-procurement based on a modular approach for implementation, with a focus on global interoperability.

The CEN BII profiles can be seen as “agreements” on message contents and business processes. The profile descriptions focus on core information elements that typically cater to the majority of user requirements applicable across Europe and lower the need for detailed bilateral agreements between the trading partners.

In its third phase (CEN WS/BII 3), which began in March 2013 with the approval of the business plan, the Workshop has focused on ensuring that all relevant aspects of e-procurement are covered, including additional business requirements coming from the new Public Procurement Directives and alignment to other standardization efforts in the area of electronic invoicing, as well as ensuring wider recognition and adoption of its deliverables.

More information about the CEN BII initiative can be found on www.cenbii.eu.

The purpose of this guideline is to provide a technical guideline on how to transfer attachments to the defined BII data models.

A common method of handling attachments will facilitate interoperability at European level. A set of recommendations are therefore outlined to harmonise its handling by different implementers of the BII profiles.

This document starts by identifying four generic methods for transferring attachments and then proceeds to describe a sample implementation of each methods i.e.; how attachment handling was implemented by DG Informatics of the European Commission, in Sweden by SFTI and Denmark by NITA. All of them are participants and implementers of the BII profiles. The last section of this document provides a set of recommendations on how attachments should be handled by the implementers of the CENBII specifications.

The used method was bottom –up. The recommendations outlined in this document were selected on the basis of actual use and technical interoperability. In this specific case, this means decoupling between the message and the transport protocol.

1 Requirements

The following requirements have been identified for delivering an attachment to a XML document.

- ATTCH-01 The attachment must be available together with the business document. This is because the content of an attachment may have an integral meaning to the business document itself such as drawings as part of orders or pictures as part of catalogues. The attachments may also have a legal requirement to be archived along with the business document.
- ATTCH-02 The method of attaching should be independent of any specific transport solution. It is recognized that depending on the nature of the business document and the relationship between the business partners any form of transport may be used, including: closed secure networks, open