# THE *Open* GROUP

# *Members Quarterly Report*

## Current Standards Focus

- **Directory**
- **CORBA**
- **Universal Management Installation Agent (UMIA)**
- **Single UNIX Specification**
- **Software License Management (XSLM)**
- **Common Data Security Architecture (CDSA)**
- **Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)**
- **LINUX**

## Open Source

The Open Group is offering $1million in access to CORBA® test suites and the Open Brand for CORBA® to select Open Source middleware vendors. The Open Group is offering compliance testing, certification, and branding services – amounting to $1million free-of-charge – to promote the interoperability of Open Source Object Request Brokers (ORBs). With this sponsorship we hope to boost confidence in Open Source freeware within the IT/IS community.

## Open Brand for CORBA Launched

The Open Brand for CORBA® was launched in the second quarter with three companies registering products:

| | Standard | Product | Environment |
|---|---|---|---|
| AT&T Laboratories, Cambridge Limited | CORBA® | omniORB 2.7.1 | Sun SPARC Ultra 2 running Solaris 2.5.1 |
| Fujitsu Limited | CORBA® | INTERSTAGE V1.1 | Solaris 2.4 or later (for SPARC) |
| ThinkOne Incorporated | CORBA® | MICO Version 2.2.7 | Intel Pentium Processor running S.u.S.E. Linux 5.3 (kernel version 2.0.35) C++ compiler: gcc version egcs-2.91.57 9980901 (egcs-1.1 release) |

## Open Brand Plans

Open Brands for CDSA and Software License Use Management (XSLM) are in the planning for 2000. Discussions are underway for Application Response Management (ARM) and Universal Management Installation Agent (UMIA).

## UNIX Program

### IEEE Agreement

The Open Group signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IEEE regarding joint development of the Austin Group Specification. The Austin Group (IEEE PASC, ISO/IEC WG15, and The Open Group Base Working Group) is working on the Single UNIX® Specification, Version 3. With this agreement, the revised Specification can be both an IEEE standard and an Open Group Technical Standard.

### LINUX

The Open Group UNIX® Program Manager, Andrew Josey, will give a talk at the August *Linux World* in San Jose, California, on the LSB-FHS test suite. Released in May and now freely available, this suite tests the file system hierarchy aspects of the Linux Standards Base.

### XNET Working Group

Focused on portability specifications for Communications Services in the UNIX® and C environment, the group is developing the Networking Services, Issue 5, Version 2 Specification (containing IPv6). This Specification will be submitted into the Austin Group process in December 1999.

## Trust and Confidence in the Global Infrastructure

**The Open Group Quarterly Conference, Washington, D.C., October, 1999**

The Open Group's October conference *Trust and Confidence in the Global Infrastructure* will bring together government, industry, and technology leaders to focus on the design, implementation, and management of systems for handling sensitive or secret data, and the growth of electronic commerce. *(see back page for details)*

# Management Program Group

This Group offers a meeting forum for vendors and customers of management systems aimed at delivering and promoting effective standards in enterprise systems management.

### Software Licensing Management (XSLM)

XSLM enables software applications to obtain and return software licenses thereby allowing management systems to control software installation and usage.

### Application Response Measurement (ARM)

ARM provides standard APIs for generating application timing information. This timing data can be collected and correlated across a distributed environment to measure system speed and effectiveness.

### Universal Management Installation Agent (UMIA)

UMIA provides an open software mechanism for bootstrapping management functionality.

At the July conference, members focused on the security aspects of the UMIA Specification. The prime objective is to create a "ZERO-touch management out of the box" solution, but this solution must give the customer an acceptable level of security, and protection of their systems. The general conclusion from the Security experts present was that a "ONE-touch" approach is likely to be achievable and acceptable to O/S suppliers and the user community.

### Application Management Interface (AMI)

The AMI Specification defines a set of programmatic interfaces that can be used by application writers which provide real-time monitoring of business information. AMI is a Specification issued by Computer Associates and J.P. Morgan.

At the July Conference, there was strong support in the Program Group for using host services and data modeling schema from the Web-Based Enterprise Management (WBEM) and Common Information Model (CIM), which is the DMTF distributed management environment and a core standard in The Open Group Standards Information Base.

A presentation on Java Management Extensions (JMX) suggested the possibility of extending AMI for use in a Java environment.

The AMI sponsors reacted positively to evolving the AMI Specification to employ WBEM and Java extensions. To preserve their objective of fast and easy implementation, a compromise solution was developed providing hooks in the first version of the AMI standard. Actual interfaces to WBEM and CIM, and the addition of Java bindings, would be incorporated in the next version. The AMI API Fast Track Formal Review commenced on 16 August.

### Common Information Model (CIM)

An initiative of the Desktop Management Task Force (DMTF), the Management Program has adopted CIM as one of its core technologies. The Open Group will use CIM as its information model to facilitate the interchange of management information.

# Security and Privacy Program Group

*"Information technology managers struggling to consistently apply access permission and other security policies across complex enterprises could find real relief in an upcoming move by [The Open Group]."*

Computerworld March, 1999

The Security Group works to produce Specifications in PKI, CDSA, Single Sign-On, Authorization, and Authentication.

### Common Data Security Architecture (CDSA)

The Open Group is pleased to announce the first issue of the CDSA Newsletter, published mid-June '99. You can find the first edition at www.opengroup.org/cdsa_newsletter/issue1/

The *Programmers Guide to using CDSA* is under development and we will work with the main CDSA developers to incorporate their material.

CDSA testing and branding is being planned. This is likely to include: (a) a brand based on the "core" modules of CDSA, and (b) a test for application source codes that use the CDSA API.

The Open Group looks to announce the brand program for CDSA in the first quarter of 2000.

### API to Authorization (AZN)

The DASCOM Fast Track of a Specification for AZN is nearing completion and a final version will be published in the last quarter. As with CDSA, testing and branding will be considered but no formal action has been agreed so far.

### Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)

Presentations during the July Conference by Verisign, Entrust, and XCERT; companies that both sell PKI certificate software and operate as Certificate Authorities (CAs), prompted the concept of attribute certificates (i.e., data that links an individual's name to a set of permission rights). A further examination of attribute certificates was given in talks by Intel Corporation, and a paper on automated trust negotiation was presented by Transarc.

The linking of individuals to attributes (and to PKI keys) is now moving towards the use of biometrics. Intel is driving the standards in this area and is collaborating with the BioAPI group.

A draft Specification for adding a human recognition module to CDSA has now been published.

### FinXML

FIX protocols have been proposed for financial information exchange and the security of systems management. It seems likely that a similar XML-based approach could be used for accessing information in "nostro" accounts.

The Open Group invites Member organizations to take part in PKI interoperability trials scheduled for the October Conference in Washington DC 1999. The results will be fed into the specification process.

## Directory Program Group

### Directory Interoperability Forum

*"IBM, Novell, Oracle, DCL, Lotus Development, and ISOCOR Rally Industry to Advance Market for Open Directory Applications*

*Over 30 directory providers and supporters back open standards to ensure applications work seamlessly in mixed computing environments"*

BUSINESS WIRE—July 7, 1999

"The Open Group is very pleased to have the input of directory leaders to work with us to accelerate application development and interoperability through directory standards, certification testing, and conformance programs,'' said Allen Brown, President and CEO, The Open Group.

"The expected results of the [Directory Interoperability] Forum (DIF) will be a major leap forward in directory interoperability and customer confidence when using multi-vendor solutions. The combination of the vendors' efforts, in conjunction with our own, will ensure that when a developer writes an application using LDAP, it will work consistently in the market."

### Directory Program Launched

The Open Group has launched its Directory Program. This Program will help to bring about the implementation and deployment of vendor-neutral, interoperable Directory solutions.

A proposal presented at the July Conference by IBM and Novell for LDAP branding envisaged two schemes: an LDAP Brand for client and server

implementations, and an LDAP Application brand for directory applications.

It was agreed to take the existing draft Open Group LDAP Server usage profiles as a starting point, develop outline feature lists from them, define interoperability tests for those features for use at the next DirConnect event, and to produce final profile definitions based on the interoperability experience at DirConnect.

There is a proposal to co-locate the next DirConnect with The Open Group Conference in Washington, D.C., during the week of 25-29 October, 1999.

The event is being planned jointly with the Security Program Group to feature interoperability testing of certificates and will be a useful stage of LDAP brand development.

## Architecture Program Group

The TOGAF Architecture Development Methodology is already a rigorous, practical, experience-based method for enterprise architecture development. The Open Group will build on this achievement by evolving the TOGAF Program into an acknowledged center of expertise and a worldwide forum.

Building Blocks are a key feature of the work program in 1999. The Program Group aims to provide a means of defining architectural building blocks in a way that allows their interactions with other building blocks to be captured, and in a

way that permits real products to be tested for conformance and procured to fulfill the defined functions.

At the July Conference, the U.K. National Health Service gave an update on the continuing use of TOGAF by the NHS. Oracle, Canada, gave a presentation on Oracle's enterprise architecture method, showing the mapping to the TOGAF Architecture Development Method, and described experience in using TOGAF on live projects.

The Micro-electronics and Computer Technology Consortium (MCC) gave a

presentation on the state-of-the-art in Architecture Description Languages, followed by a briefing on MCC's own Architecture Description Markup Language (ADML) and a key project undertaken by MCC in collaboration with The Open Group, to develop a proof of concept for a Building Blocks Description Language.

The TOGAF Program is on schedule to deliver the Building Blocks Description Language proof of concept in Q3 1999 and the enhanced Version 5 of TOGAF in Q4 1999.

## Mobile Computing Task Force

Work with the Wireless Access Protocol (WAP) Forum is one of The Open Group's initial efforts in the mobile computing arena. In Q2 The Open Group completed development of the test assertions for the WAP Forum. It also signed a contract with the WAP Forum to develop application layer tests based on the test assertions for WAP 1.1 WML, WMLScript, and WMLScript Library Specifications. (WML is the WAP

Mark-up Language. These Specifications are derived from HTML and Ecmascript.) The Open Group has implemented these tests in-house, made them available to Beta Test sites, and made them generally available from mid-August.

The test methodology and test management software for the WAP tests are built on the work The Open Group did

on the network client test suite for the Network Computing program. The Open Group has submitted a proposal to the WAP Forum for the development and operation of the WAP certification program. It hopes to be invited to bid on the development of tests for the rest of the WAP 1.1 application layer and underlying protocols in Q3 1999.

## Trust and Confidence in the Global Infrastructure

**The Open Group Quarterly Conference, October 24, 25, 1999, Washington, D.C.**

To increase competitiveness and meet their organizations' goals, both public and private sector enterprises have linked customers, partners, fellow agencies, and suppliers into their global infrastructures, virtually overnight. The extent of this integration, in terms of data, dollars, and system complexity, has brought about an exponential increase in the need for e-security and global regulation requirements.

The Open Group's October Conference *Trust and Confidence in the Global Infrastructure* will focus on the issues that this raises with regard to the design, implementation, and management of systems for handling sensitive or secret data, and the growth of electronic commerce.

Within the context of a competitive environment where international contract law and face-to-face meetings are no longer commercial realities, attendees will learn first-hand about the legal, regulatory, software, and interoperability implications and initiatives that will drive the standardization of alternative mechanisms for ensuring trust and confidence across borders.

As a result of participation in this Conference, CIOs, systems architects, IS managers, and their technology suppliers will be better equipped to forecast system requirements, develop security implementation plans, and securely manage their global infrastructure, producing increased customer satisfaction and maintaining global regulatory compliance.

The underlying technologies to be discussed cover all the fundamental aspects of the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI):

- **Authorization**
- **Authentication**
- **Common Data Security Architecture (CDSA)**
- **Directory**

## For More Information or to Register for the Conference go to www.opengroup.org/conference

### Open Group Conferences

Open Group conferences attract a broad audience, with participants ranging from senior strategy and policy professionals to those with responsibility for the detailed implementation and integration of complex systems. The first two days of each conference address enterprise computing issues and influencing factors from a wider perspective, and are open to both Members and Non-Members alike. A platform of international speakers and experts talk to a central theme on the first day; and on the second day, The Open Group provides an update on the initiatives and work-in-progress under its auspices, together with concurrent briefing sessions. The second half of the week is dedicated to The Open Group's Program Groups, and is open to Members only*. Members participate in the ongoing activities of each group, working towards the development and deployment of the frameworks, policies, "best practice", and standards essential to open and accessible multi-vendor technology.

*\* In some instances, non-members may be invited to participate by special invitation.*

### Who Should Attend?

IT Directors, Managers, and senior professionals involved in strategies supporting the integration of new technology across the enterprise and/or involved in providing products and services to support those strategies. Specific areas of interest include Security and Electronic Commerce, Architecture, Standards and Procurement, Enterprise Integration, Directory, and Systems Management.

## The Open Group

The Open Group is committed to delivering greater business efficiency by bringing together buyers and suppliers of information systems to lower the barriers of integrating new technology across the enterprise.

Organizations wishing to reduce the time, cost, and risk of implementing new solutions which integrate within and between enterprises need The Open Group as their critical partner to ensure that multi-vendor information technology meets the demands and needs of customers. This is achieved through the development and deployment of frameworks, policies, "best practice", and standards in pursuit of the IT DialTone™ vision - the concept of making all technology as open and accessible as using a telephone.

Backed by the knowledge and expertise residing in its sponsors - Compaq, Fujitsu, HP, Hitachi, IBM, NCR, Siemens, and Sun - and other members comprising leading software companies and Fortune 500 users and government bodies, The Open Group is well on its way to achieving the IT DialTone vision. Embracing the maxim: "we can do so much more together than alone", The Open Group is helping its members to stay ahead in the race to use technology to gain competitive advantage.