Applying ISO RM-ODP in the Specification of CORBA® Interfaces and Semantics to General Ledger Systems

Chapter

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Abstract

This chapter describes how the ISO Reference Model of Open Distributed Processing (ISO RM-ODP) was successfully used in the specification of an internationally agreed standard for software interfaces to the General Ledger component of Financial Accounting business systems. This standard, called the General Ledger Facility, is currently in the latter stages of formal adoption by the Object Management Group (OMG) and will become part of its global CORBA

standard. Technology submissions to OMG typically represent only a fragment (with minimal emphasis on semantics) of the ISO RM-ODP Computational Viewpoint. In some cases, these can be incomplete and difficult to understand, particularly if the reader is not familiar with the default assumptions surrounding the subject matter. The approach described was used to enhance understandability and precision insupport of the goals of creating long-lived and widely applicable domain specifications. The OMGGeneral Ledger Facility specification incorporates all five RM-ODP viewpoints: Enterprise, Information, Computational, Engineering and Technology.

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