

Contents

New eCI@ss members	2
General Assembly of the eCI@ss e.V.....	3
eCI@ss-company DataFlux introduces itself	5
eCI@ss Implementation on European level.....	6
Publication of eCI@ss Release 7.0 Advanced on May 23rd, 2011	7
eCatCreator also supports eCI@ss 7.0 Advanced.....	9
Neutral services offer: eCI@ss initial consultation.....	10

eCI@ss - The Organization – currently 112 members



New eCI@ss members

We are pleased to welcome seven new members within the eCI@ss association:

<p>Smiths Medical Deutschland GmbH http://www.smiths-medical.com</p>	<p>URGO GmbH http://www.urgo.de</p>
<p>Schachermayer Großhandels-gesellschaft m.b.H, Austria http://www.schachermayer.at</p>	<p>Mercateo AG http://www.mercateo.com</p>
<p>Schunk GmbH & Co. KG http://www.de.schunk.com</p>	<p>TEDATA Gesellschaft für technische Informationssysteme mbH www.tedata.com</p>
<p>ESG Elektroniksystem- und Logistik GmbH www.esg.de</p>	

[Additional information regarding the benefits of the membership within eCI@ss e.V. ...](#)

Contact person: Mr. Einsporn, einsporn@eclass-office.com

General Assembly of the eCI@ss e.V.

On April the 12th, this year's general assembly of the eCI@ss e.V. took place in the premises of the Instituts der deutschen Wirtschaft Köln. At this year's meeting the following topics were discussed:

■ Review and Annual Report of the Board about the past fiscal year

Friedhelm Hausmann, Chairman of the Board of the eCI@ss e.V., went into details of to the general association development, the development of the eCI@ss standards as well as the discontinuation of the funding for the BMWi projects in 2011, and presented the results achieved in 2010.

■ Integration of PROLIST International into the eCI@ss association

Mr. Peter Rost presented the proposed merger of the two associations PROLIST International e.V. and eCI@ss e.V. in detail. He went into the common objectives of the agreement, the focus of the merger agreement and other agreements for the merger of both associations. The request for the approval to complete the merger agreement was adopted by the General Assembly unanimously.

■ Changes in the eCI@ss e.V.

Mr. Hausmann presented in detail the new Organization model of this eCI@ss e.V. with its corresponding bodies. Focus of the change is the transfer of responsibilities and decision-making authority from the board into the head-office and the related operational discharge of the Board as well as increased efficiency is in the decision-making processes.

■ Election of new board members

After the adoption of board member Peter Rost, who enters into the passive phase of his partial retirement within the Siemens AG, Mr. Markus Reigl (Head of Corporate Standardization & Technical Regulation, Siemens AG) as successors for Mr. Rost and Mr. Andreas Ludwig (Coordinator purchasing networks and collaborations, EnBW Energie Baden-Wuerttemberg AG) stood for election to the Board. All present members agreed on the nominations of Mr. Reigl and Mr. Ludwig.



■ eCI@ss 7.0 from the companies point of view

Mr. Schmelter (Master Specialist Classification, Phoenix Contact GmbH & Co. KG) and Mr. Lobermeier (Manager product data, Weidmüller Interface GmbH & Co. KG) presented the internal and external data processes of their respective companies and thus pointed out the process improvements in the data exchange of engineering data, using the current release eCI@ss 7.0 "Advanced".

■ Results of the survey „Use of eCI@ss in the economy“

Mr. Kenter, Managing Director IW Consult GmbH, presented the results of the user survey "Use of eCI@ss in the economy" ran by IW Consult. Major conclusions of the survey were statements about the tendency of business size and business sectors of the companies applying. Thereby the type of use is distinguished between company divisions in which eCI@ss is used and the segments used for eCI@ss.

Contact person: Mr. Einsporn, einsporn@eclass-office.com

eCI@ss-company DataFlux introduces itself



Fast, Easy Classification of Product and Material Data

Reliable data is an essential prerequisite for strategic enterprise decisions. DataFlux, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SAS Institute, supports its customers in safeguarding data quality, data integration, and master data management. With an integrated data management platform for data analysis, enhancement, and control, enterprises can get a holistic view of customer, product, and supplier data. Rules and standards for data quality can be defined and applied enterprise-wide. Analyst firm Gartner once again listed DataFlux as the market leader for data quality in their "Magic Quadrant for Data Quality Tools 2010".

The DataFlux portfolio includes a solution that enables enterprises to classify their product and material data according to eCI@ss. Carl Zeiss, an optics group, has launched an initiative for material classification based on data management software from DataFlux. The initiative aims to standardize all product and material data, to enable the company to respond to internal and external inquiries more quickly. In addition, the tender process is to be partially automated, boosting the company's competitiveness and capturing cost savings.

Dutch chemicals company DSM also relies on DataFlux software. DSM sought a solution to improve their data quality and procurement analysis. To carry out their sophisticated manufacturing methods, DSM processes complex data for products, warehousing, and raw materials. But accurate analysis of the procured materials and associated costs (spend analysis) was only partially possible. They also lacked an enterprise-wide system for material classification.

DataFlux gave DSM an intelligent data management solution that enables the assignment of the appropriate eCI@ss codes to materials in real time, while orders are entered. The eCI@ss list used for matching is constantly updated. This means their employees can now quickly assign the appropriate eCI@ss codes whenever new materials are entered in the company's SAP system. As a result, the DataFlux technology provides a transparent overview of the entire purchasing process, as well as optimization of all incurred costs.

[More information about DataFlux and their products and services](#)

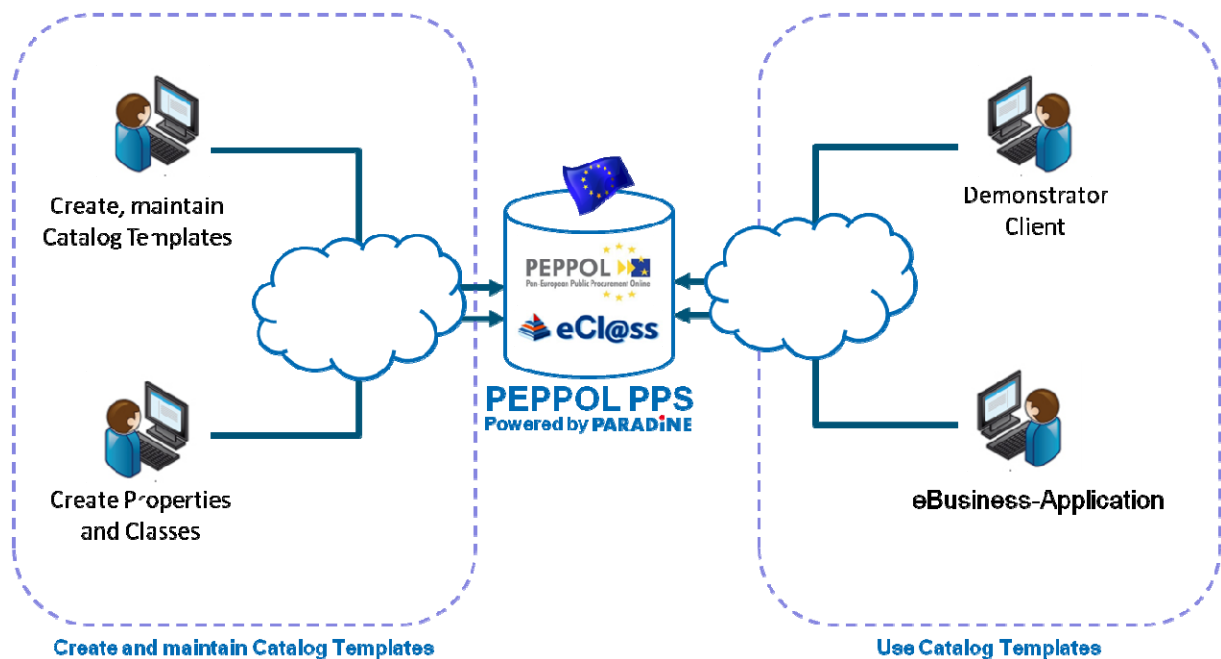
Contact person: Mrs. Gabriele Smith, gabriele.smith@dataflux.com

Phone: +49 (0) 6221 415 3124

eCI@ss Implementation on European level

Good progress in the implementation of eCI@ss in the PEPPOL project

The already in the November newsletter presented implementation of eCI@ss in the PEPPOL project is progressing well. The European project PEPPOL (Pan-European Public Procurement Online) aims to enable a common EU-wide interoperable pilot solution, based on the national systems, that allows for public procurement. As part of the PEPPOL work package 3 (eCatalogues) the PEPPOL Product Property Server (PEPPOL ePPS) was established by eCI@ss partner Paradine GmbH.



Within the PEPPOL ePPS, the public procurement organizations can create templates for public tenders based on eCI@ss sets of properties. These templates are multilingual and support all languages available in eCI@ss. Access to the template is provided online or via web service. Structured tender on the basis of standardized specifications (templates) and the reuse of the templates offer enormous potential savings in public procurement. As a next step in the project, real pilot tenders, based on the eCI@ss-based templates, are intended.

As part of the [6th PEPPOL conference](#) in Stockholm on May 27th 2011, Reinhard Pohn, Managing Director Paradine GmbH, presents practical information for PEPPOL implementations in the pre-award phase. For companies that want to be informed about the further development of eCI@ss in European tenders, Paradine offers a professional event as part of the 3rd eCI@ss Congress entitled "Structured tenders in public procurement with eCI@ss".

Contact person: Mr. Reinhard Pohn, reinhard.pohn@paradine.at

Phone: +43 (1) 236 66 68 - 330

Publication of eCI@ss Release 7.0 Advanced on May 23rd, 2011

On May 23rd 2011, the new eCI@ss Release 7.0 Advanced will be published. With this release, two different eCI@ss XML versions are available in the future: **Advanced** and **Basic**.

The Advanced version is the leading version in the database and contains all structure elements of the eCI@ss standards including dynamic elements such as constraints, polymorphism, and cardinality. The Basic version contains only the contents of the .csv version, the only available export formats until Release 7.0. With eCI@ss Release 7.0 following versions are available:

- **BASIC-Version** (no blocks, no dynamic elements) in .csv- and .xml format with identical content
- **ADVANCED-Version** (incl. blocks and dynamic elements) in .xml format

Special features and advantages of the different eCI@ss versions:

	eCI@ss 7.0 Basic	eCI@ss 7.0 Advanced
Applica- tion range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Perfect base for product classification and product groups systems ■ Standardized basis for product master data management ■ Contents of sets of properties are primarily for procurement, distribution and maintenance ■ Provision of data for creation of electronic catalogs and use in BMECat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Properties and sets of properties are excellently applicable in the engineering (design, planning), emphasis on process control ■ Capable for use in Quality Management ■ In CAx applications through specially developed content ■ Content and structures are particularly suitable for company wide data processes ■ Data linked representation of the entire value chain, including the engineering ■ Ideal base for applications in product data management (PDM) ■ Provision of data for creation of electronic catalogs and use in BMECat

	eCI@ss 7.0 Basic	eCI@ss 7.0 Advanced
Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Delivery via CSV files, thus very easy to install in ERP and PDM systems ■ Alternative delivery also in .xml format for automated installation ■ New data types (e.g. Measure, Count) enable easy and unambiguous data entry ■ Products are described by properties ■ Properties are standards compliant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Delivery exclusively in .xml format, installation is automated ■ New data types (e.g. Measure, Count) enable easy and unambiguous data entry ■ Products are described using structured properties (e.g. block, cardinality, polymorphism) ■ Properties are standards compliant ■ Sets of properties are modular and therefore very user-friendly to customize ■ Properties and sets of properties allow a complete product description along the entire value chain. ■ Sets of properties conform to the requirements of the products ■ All contents of the eCI@ss 7.0 Basic included
Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updates are supported by RUFs (Release Update Files) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updates are supported by RUFs (Release Update Files) ■ Product data are transported to the update semi-automatically by TUFS (Transaction Update Files)

To download the files, please use the [eCI@ss-DownloadPortal](#).

Contact person: Mrs. Zahnen, zahnen@eclass-office.com

eCI@ss 7.0: Must your company respond to the technical developments?

If you are currently considering issues relating to the introduction of eCI@ss, and want to benefit from the knowledge of eCI@ss-proven companies, the eCI@ss professional event regarding eCI@ss 7.0, offers the opportunity to learn about the changes, possibilities and advantages of the new release. The agenda and a registration form can be found [here ...](#)

Contact person: Mr. Basler, basler@eclass-office.com

Phone: +49 (0) 221 4981-810

eCatCreator also supports eCI@ss 7.0 Advanced

With the eCatCreator from Paradine you create electronic catalogs easily and quickly according to eCI@ss in BMEcat format.

Purchasing companies increasingly request provision of electronic product catalogs according to the eCI@ss standard from their suppliers. The eCatCreator supports the creation and maintenance of product catalogs. In addition to earlier releases of eCI@ss, the new eCI@ss Release 7.0 is supported in Basic as well as in the Advanced format.

The eCatCreator is a PC-application, easy to install and operable without prior knowledge. MS Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows 7 are supported.

For more information, see [here...](#)

Contact person: Mr. Georg Kalandra, georg.kalandra@paradine.at

Phone: +43 (1) 236 66 68 – 330



Neutral services offer: eCl@ss initial consultation

You want to know how the eCl@ss standard works and how to use it to optimize processes within your company? How to respond most effectively to customer requests on the topic "eCl@ss"? How to create an electronic catalog without great effort (e.g. BMEcat), referred to eCl@ss classified product information? How to clean up in the Babylon of the terms with a standardized language? How to use e-markets or e-procurement platforms better - whether as seller or buyer?

These and many other questions can be individually addressed and discussed in an **on-site consultation** directly in your company with an eCl@ss consultant.



The initial consultation serves the basic evaluation of a possible implementation and use of the eCl@ss classification in e-business (electronic business). Together, a conceptual basis for a targeted company-specific approach is adopted. A coordinated neutral provision of appropriate, specialized contacts, service providers and software products can take place, if needed, to ensure optimum implementation of your eCl@ss targets.

Contact person: Mr. Lindner, lindner@eclass-office.com

Phone: +49 (0) 221 4981-788



eCl@ss e.V. Head office | Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 21 | 50459 Köln
Telefon: +49 (0)221 4981 - 811 | E-Mail: info@eclass.de
Telefax: +49 (0)211 4981 - 856 | URL: www.eclass.de

You are receiving this email because you have subscribed to eCl@ss e.V. All articles are protected by copyright. They were carefully researched and prepared. eCl@ss e.V. does not accept any liability for inaccurate or incorrect information. No copy may be reproduced, in whole or in part, without express written permission from eCl@ss e.V. If you would prefer not to receive further information in the future, you can erase your email address from the eCl@ss e.V. newsletter distribution list [here](#).