OASIS and XLIFF technical committee liaison report to ISO TC 37, May 2016

OASIS is a non-profit consortium that drives the development, convergence and adoption of open standards for the global information society.

The XLIFF technical committee develops XLIFF (XML Localisation Interchangeable File Format) which is used for the interchange of translatable material.

OASIS and the XLIFF technical committee are liaison members of TC 37 and TC 37 SC5. The liaison representatives from OASIS and the XLIFF technical committee are Peter Reynolds and Jamie Clarke (OASIS General Counsel).

# XLIFF 2.0

XLIFF 2.0 was published by OASIS in August 2014. Both OASIS and ISO had agreed that when OASIS publish XLIFF 2.0 this will be submitted to ISO as an international standard.

The first step in this process was an internal consultation process at OASIS where members were asked whether there were any objections to submitting the standard to ISO. There was then a proposal sent to the OASIS President by the XLIFF TC that the standard should be submitted to ISO. OASIS approved this and Jamie Clarke sent the standard to ISO’s CEO with the proposal that it become an ISO standard using the fast track mechanism. OASIS also suggested that ISO TC 37 SC 5 would be a good home for XLIFF as this was the subcommittee dealing with translation.

ISO CS checked which was the best technical committee at ISO for the standard and a number of committees were asked whether they were interested. At the end of this period ISO CS also decided that TC 37 SC 5 was the best place for this standard.

At this stage OASIS and XLIFF TC were liaison members of TC 37 but not of any of the individual SCs of TC 37 We applied to become a liaison member of SC5 and were happy to become a liaison member of SC 5 last year.

Earlier this year we had a joint meeting between OASIS and TC 37 SC 5 to ensure that everyone was in agreement about how XLIFF should be submitted to ISO. OASIS agreed to produce a version of the XLIFF standard in a Word document format and submit this to SC 5. The standard would then go through the fast track process. Development of the standard would continue at OASIS and any suggestions from ISO would be sent to the XLIFF TC at OASIS and incorporated into future versions of the standard.

The standard has now been sent by SC 5 to ISO CS in preparation for the DIS vote.

David Filip who is secretary of the XLIFF TC has also become an NSAI (Ireland) expert to TC 37 and will be in Copenhagen. Peter Reynolds will also be present.