

**Common platform for e-  
procurement**

**NES**

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# Agenda

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- Who and what is NES?
- Our approach to using UBL 2.0
- The NES deliverables
- Cooperation continues
- Further information
- Some opinions

- Commission initiatives

The IDA programme of the European Commission, and its successor IDABC (Interoperable Delivery of European eGovernment Services to public Administrations, Business and Citizens) for eProcurement

<http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/en/document/4721/5874>

- *E-ordering and e-Invoicing data models*
- *European contribution to UBL 1.1*
- *(linking also to models in the early procurement phases)*

- Related national initiatives

- *OIOXML invoice, Denmark*
- *Office of Government Commerce, UK – functional requirements specification*
- *EHandel, Norway – activity model, information model*
- *SFTI/Svefaktura, Sweden*
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# International corporation

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- Corporation between a group of countries and organisations, currently
  - **Denmark**
    - *Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (VTU),*
    - *Danish IT and Telecom Agency (ITST)*
  - **Sweden**
    - *Single Face To Industry (SFTI), the public sector initiative in Sweden to promote e-business by the Swedish National Financial Management Authority (ESV), Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Sveriges Kommuner och Landsting), and Swedish Administrative Development Agency (Verva)*
  - **Norway**
    - *Norwegian Ministry of Government Administration and Reform eProcurement Secretariat (www.ehandel.no)*
    - *e2b Forum (an e-invoicing initiative in the private sector supported by the government - www.e2b.no).*
  - **Finland**
    - *State Treasury*
    - *Tieke Finnish Information Society Development Centre*
  - **England**
    - *OGC buying solutions under Office of Government Commerce*
  - **Island**
    - *The Financial Management Authority (Fjárfýsla Ríkisins).*
    - *Iceland Committee on e-business and Trade Procedures" ICEPRO*
- To facilitate practical use of electronic collaboration based on available international standards
- Focusing on basic e-procurement functions



- The purpose of NES is to
  - *facilitate interoperability and practical use of e-procurement both in domestic and cross border trade*
    - Even if the participants in the working group are mainly from the public sector, the group will try to include both business-to-business and business-to-government e-commerce/e-procurement in its work.
  - *facilitate harmonisation of different types of e-procurement documents*
    - This provides an opportunity to base e-procurement documents and processes on a coordinated Northern European subset.
  - *contribute to the development and use of an international standard for e-procurement*

## ... based on international standards **NES**

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- NES has identified UBL as a free and open format, which at this point in time presents the greatest potential for realizing comprehensive electronic commerce, in domestic as well as cross-border trade
- UBL is an open and freely available library of XML documents for e-commerce
  - *Version 1 was released as an OASIS standard in May 2004*
  - *Version 2 was released as an OASIS standard in December 2006*
    - 31 business documents covering an extended e-procurement process and transport
    - Based on ebXML Core Components - ISO 15000-5
- Furthermore, NES recognises the importance of the standardisation work in progress within UN/CEFACT and are actively working for the adoption of the UBL-specifications in the UN/CEFACT framework

**NES supports and is committed to the ongoing convergence between UBL and UN/CEFACT**

- **Business process and scenario descriptions** based on a common application of UBL applicable for both domestic and cross border trade
- **Business rules and recommendations** for the use of the UBL XML documents
- **A common subset** of the UBL XML documents reflecting the needs expressed in the business rules
- **Formal rules for validation** of the business rules expressed as Schematron
- **General guidelines and code lists** for the use of UBL

Business Process  
& scenarios  
Business Rules  
Business Content

Syntax implementation  
based on UBL 2.0

Guidelines  
&  
Code lists

- A description of one or more related business processes supported by the exchange of a defined set of electronic business documents in order to fulfil a defined business purpose.
- The NES profiles are
  - *designed to support cross-border and domestic trade*
  - *based on legal/fiscal requirements and agreed best practices*
- Each NES profile should be recognised as an independent implementation
- Compliance to NES is measured against NES profiles in the following way:
  - *All elements, mandatory and optional, listed in a profile must be understood by anyone receiving the message and claiming to be compliant with the profile stated in the message.*
  - *Any bilateral additions to messages in a NES profile means that the companies should not use the NES profile ID in the message.*
  - *Recipient can reject messages that contain elements outside of the profile or elements not in line with the cardinality of the profile.*

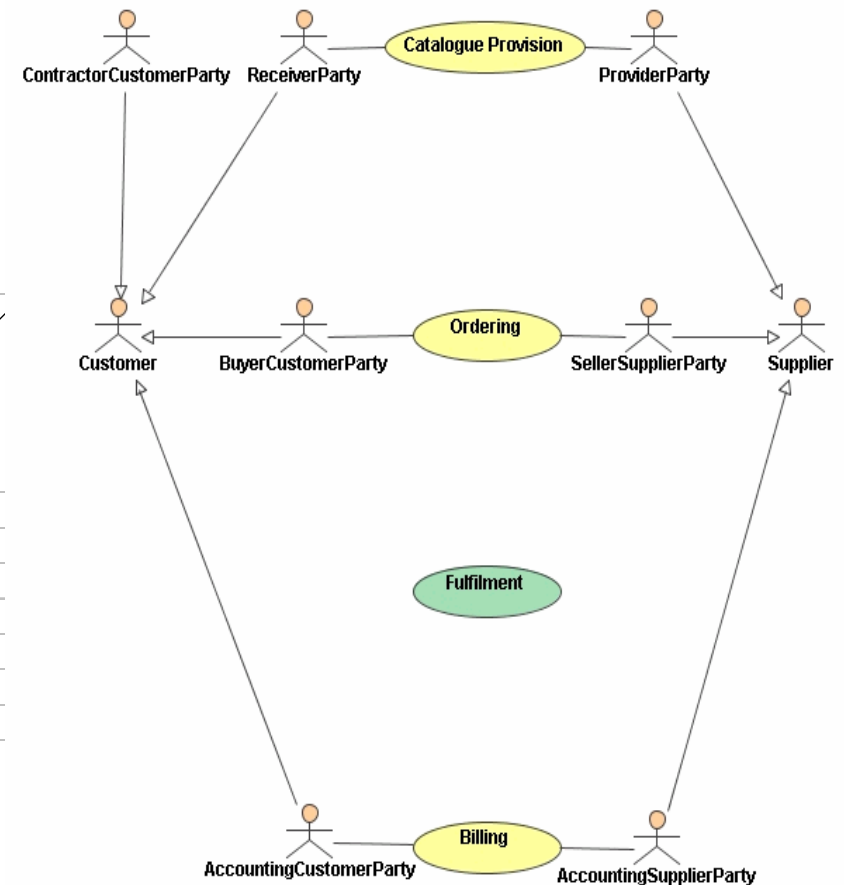


- NES profiles
  - *Are supported by validation tools*
  - *Provide for minimum interchange agreements (the sender should know that the receiving system is capable of handling all data) and minimum lead time to set up new relations*
  - *Helps mass dissemination through implementation in standard products from suppliers of ERP systems, even the small ones*
  - *Offer predictability and systems synchronisation: Each message identifies the profile, setting the expected level of processing as well as any responses*
  - *Provide for migration from single-message profiles to more automated profiles through consistent profiling of messages*

# Profiles in NES phase 1

- Were published for public review December 2006
- Consist of 7 profiles supporting basic e-procurement functions

NES Profile	Catalogue	Catalogue Update - Item	Catalogue Update - Price	Order	Order Response Simple	Invoice	Credit Note	Application Respons
Establish Catalogue	X							
Catalogue with update	X	X	X					
Basic Order Only				X				
Basic Invoice Only						X		
Basic Billing						X	X	
Basic procurement				X	X	X	X	
Simple Procurement				X	X	X	X	X



# The profiles

- Profile 1 – Catalogue Only
  - *Catalogue*
  - *Application Response*
- Profil 2 – Catalogue with update
  - *Catalogue*
  - *Catalogue Item Specification Update*
  - *Catalogue Price Update*
- Profil 3 – Basic Order Only
  - *Order*
- Profil 4 – Basic Invoice Only
  - *Invoice*
- Profil 5 – Basic Billing
  - *Invoice*
  - *Credit Note*
- Profil 6 – Basic Procurement
  - *Order*
  - *Order Response Simple*
  - *Invoice*
  - *Credit Note*
- Profile 7 – Simple Procurement (Library version)
  - *Order*
  - *Order Response Simple*
  - *Invoice*
  - *Credit Note*
  - *Application Response*

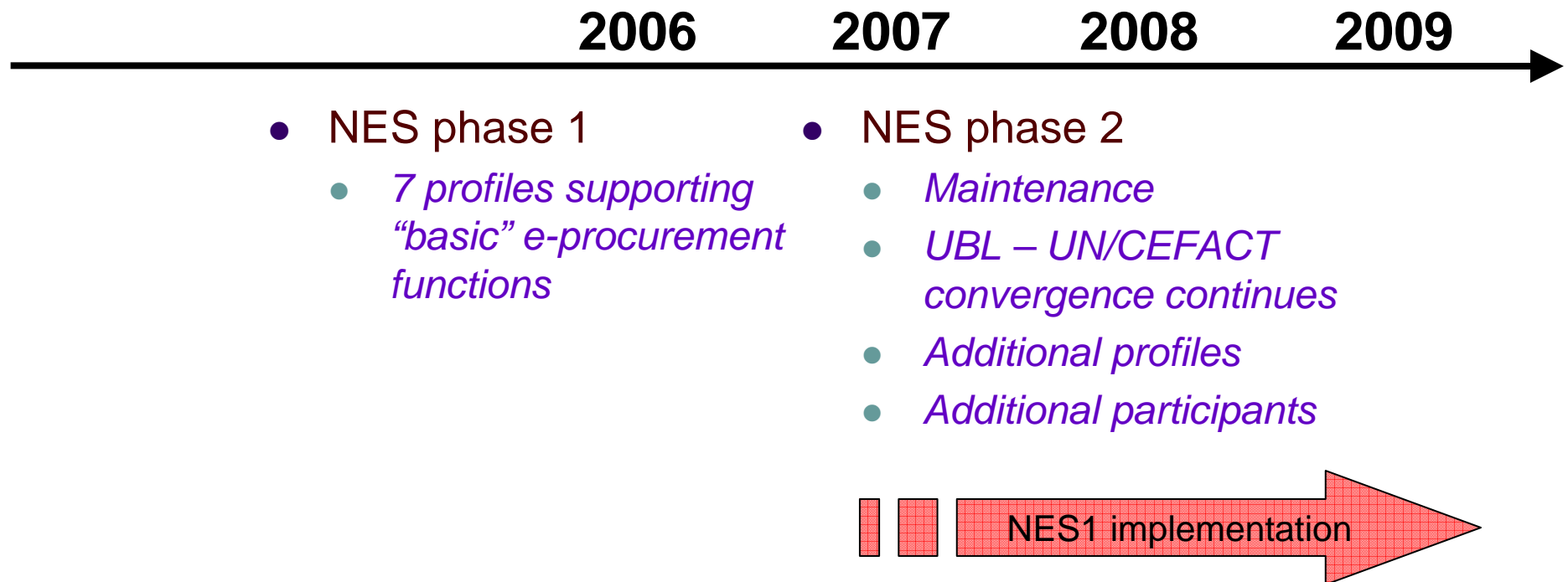
# Why these profiles?

- They are simple and straight-forward
- They address key issues related to procurement control, especially in decentralised organisations
- Procurement systems are used more and more
  - *To show framework contracts, and to guide buyers to buy from them*
  - *To register requisitions, and to obtain advance attestation*
  - *Register delivery*
  - *And to automatically reconcile invoices*
- That is
  - *buying against catalogue is common*
  - *Advance, internal requisition is encouraged*
- But also invoices outside such control have to be dealt with, e.g. in a workflow type of system
- We try to have a migration path ready for those who wish to move more transactions into procurement systems

# The work continues

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- The cooperation continues to support implementation and continued development.



- For documents and other information, see <http://www.nesubl.eu/>
- A workshop will be held in Brussels on 15 February 2007, 10:00-16:00
  - Contact Helle Schade-Sørensen, ITST, e-mail [hss@itst.dk](mailto:hss@itst.dk)

# Reaching the masses?

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- No need for bilateral agreements – The default
  - *But give possibility to agree on extensions if needed*
- Let the reality dictate the terms on how the standard is defined
  - *Gives existing system the possibility to adopt NES with small efforts*
- Central validation service
- Real-time validation tools
- Involvement from the ERP vendors
- Open and free standards