

Different paths of cooperation between research projects and standards organizations

THE *Open* GROUP

Scott Hansen
Director – European Projects

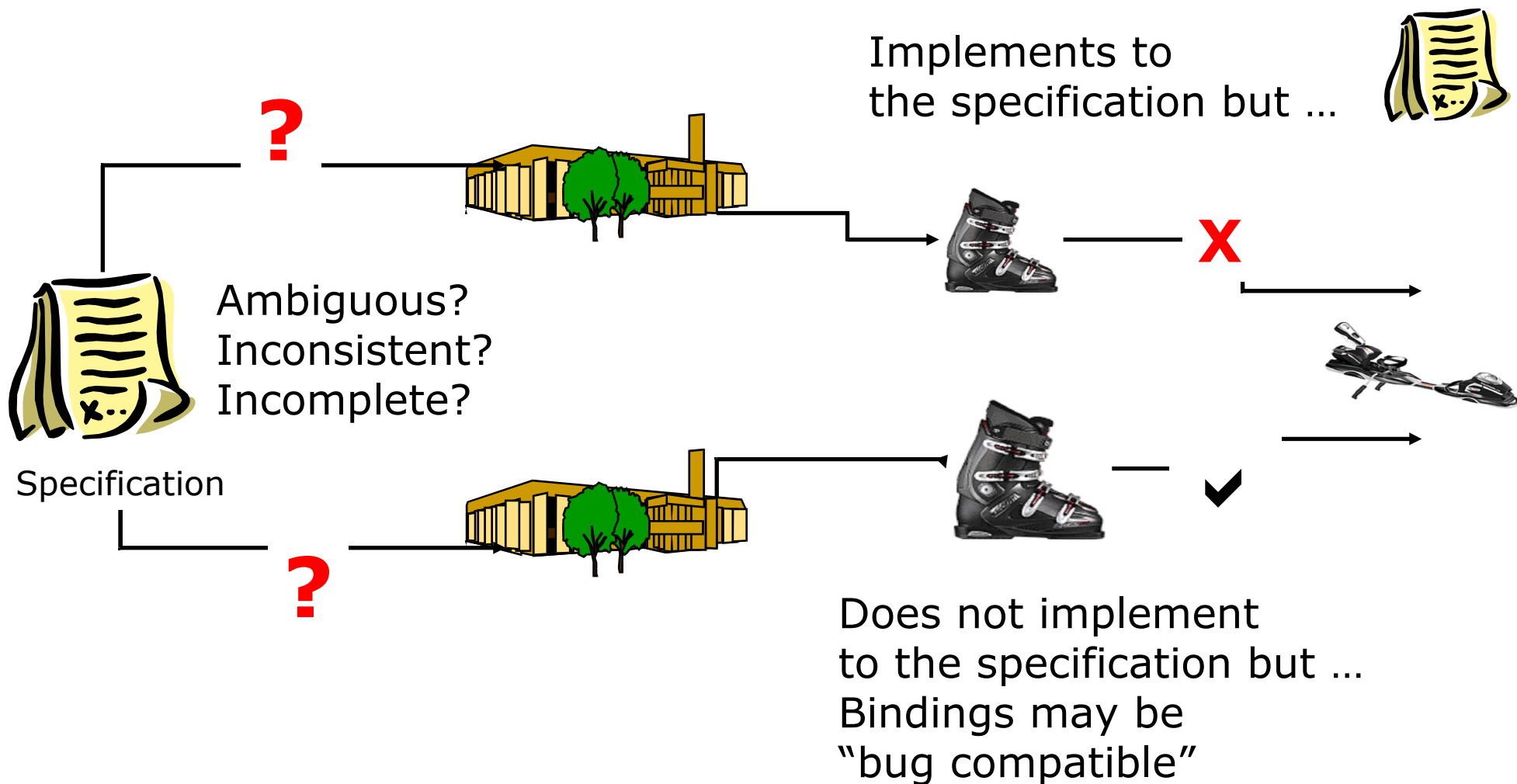
Rond Point Schuman 6
B-1040 Brussels
Belgium

s.hansen@opengroup.org

Tel +32 2 675 1136
www.opengroup.org

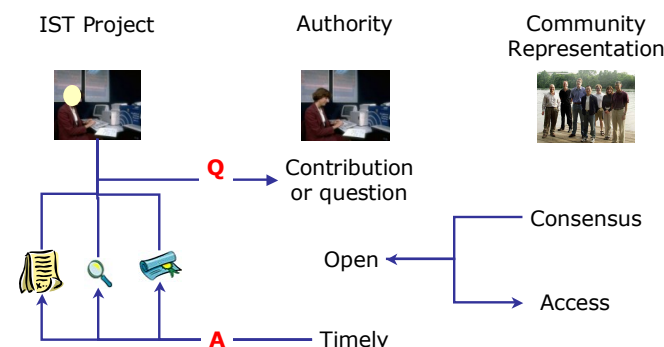


The challenge of specifications



Elements of standardisation

- Consensus process
 - Suppliers representing substantial percentage of market must agree
 - User driven is fastest path but very rare
- Evolution assurance
 - Specification usually needs a home so it's maintained and updated
- Contribution process
 - Industry adoption usually requires ability to influence
- Access mechanism
 - IPR and prerequisite technologies must be clear
- Awareness
 - Developers and users must be made aware



If projects cannot describe how each element will be addressed then unlikely to achieve standardisation goals

Verifying the “standards body” path

Key Success Factors

- Formal specification submission is a project deliverable []
- Technology area within an existing group in standards body []
- Partner already a member of target standards body []
- Standards body already has regional diversity []
- Project resources allocated to addressing counter proposals []
- Specific project tasks to build both consensus and awareness []
- First submission to standards body very early in project []

More success factors in a project the more credible a
“standards body” path to standardisation

Areas where COPRAS can assist

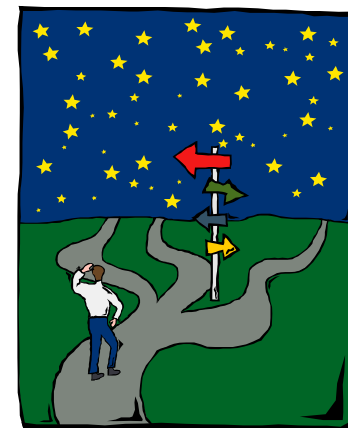
In addition to supporting formal specification activities, COPRAS can also:

- Establish an open process for industry participation in specification evolution
- Accelerate industry adoption and eliminate ambiguities
- Create broader consensus and awareness of the proposed specification



Open process for specification evolution

- COPRAS partners able to establish new subgroupings
 - CEN/ISSS workshops, W3C working groups, ETSI Technical Body...
 - Coordinate work within other standards bodies
- or –
- Can assist IST projects to evolve into new open industry groupings
 - Larger IPs may already contain key market actors/influencers
 - Substantial portion of value chain represented amongst partners



COPRAS industry consortia support

- Legal and financial frameworks
- Industry participation management
- Working Group management
- Specification coordination
- Web and conventional publishing
- Open meeting management



**The Interconnect Software
Consortium (ICSC)**

Accelerating specification take-up

- How do you know a system that follows a specification is interoperable ?
 - Trademark or “trustmark”
 - Public register
 - Plugfests
- Licensing a “trustmark” means trademark law can be used to prevent false claims (passing off)

Customer pull



- Choice
 - Now / future
- Integration
 - Time, cost, quality

Existing certification programmes from COPRAS partners



UNIXTM



and more...



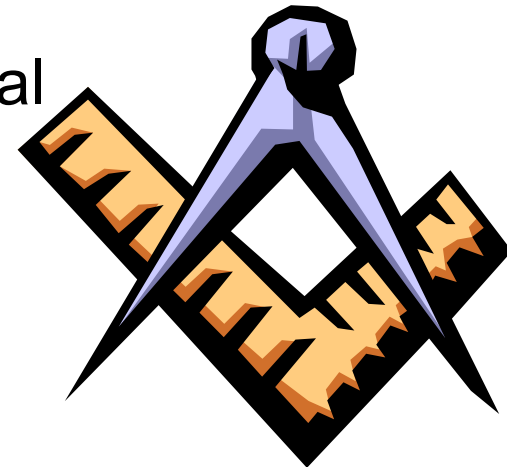
Creating broader specification awareness

- Combined membership of COPRAS partners exceeds 5000 organisations
- Partners have regular events every year
 - Quarterly member meetings
 - “Plugfests” and demonstrators
 - Workshops and conferences
- Contacts with every major IT vendor and many hundreds of smaller vendors
 - Use contacts to create supporting constituencies



Sample COPRAS support for Call 1 projects

- Invite from ETSI work group to submit specification
- Presentations at events involving constituencies
- Coordinating harmonisation of submission across cluster of projects
- Formation of new CEN/ISSS standards grouping
- Project briefings for global standards bodies
- Defining strategy for consensus building in global standards body
- Certification programme for new specification



COPRAS: Supporting standardisation of IST project results

