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Volume 12, No.10

Management Matters is a monthly publication covering the Distributed Management Task Force and its member organizations.

Message from the President: Driving the Future through Our Academic Programs

DMTF has passed an important milestone – reaching new heights for our [Academic Alliance program](#). Now with more than 40 alliances with academic institutions from around the world, DMTF advocates providing information to faculty and students who are studying and researching management standards. An Academic Alliance membership allows access to work groups and their documents based on the interest of the particular institution. At most board meetings, the board reviews and approves applications for these alliances and makes sure they are aligned with the correct work.

Upcoming Events

November 27–30, 2007

[Gartner Data Center Conference](#)
Las Vegas, Nevada

December 3, 2007

[CDM System Health Management Industry Showcase Event](#)
Santa Clara, California (in conjunction with Management Developers Conference)

December 3–6, 2007

[Management Developers Conference](#)
Santa Clara, California

Watch this space for [other DMTF events](#)

This year, we were very pleased to work with IRIT (Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse) and Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse, France, to host the first-ever DMTF academic conference: [Systems and Virtualization Management 2007](#). The event, held October 23–24, was the industry's inaugural workshop dedicated to academic research on standards and new technologies for systems and virtualization management.

Many DMTF industry participants traveled to France last month and presented their latest work with the attendees. Papers were presented from around the globe, including France, Spain, Germany, Tunisia, Egypt, China, India, Canada, and the USA.

It is important for the industry to work with these universities to continue the research and development of distributed systems management. This is not only an investment for today, but a key investment in the future. I hope we look for better ways to listen to their ideas, include them in our thinking and add their contributions to our work.



Winston Bumpus
DMTF President

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Editorial Staff

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Now Available: CIM Query Language Spec

DMTF released version 1.0 of the CIM Query Language specification ([DSP0202](#)) as a final standard. DSP0202 describes a query language used to extract data from a [Common Information Model](#) (CIM)-based management infrastructure.

The CIM Query Language spec has been widely anticipated and exploited in the CIM Operations over HTTP Specification, by the CIM Events Model, and by the CIM Policy Model. The language defines the desired instance-level data ranging over a certain set of objects to be returned as the result of an ExecuteQuery CIM operation.

Seven Preliminary Specs for Member Review

CIM-XML 1.3 Preliminary Release

The DMTF has announced the [CIM-XML](#) 1.3 preliminary release. CIM-XML, which was first released in 1999, is a [WBEM](#) protocol that uses XML over HTTP to exchange CIM information. The 1.3 preliminary release includes support to address scalability and interoperability issues. CIM-XML is defined by the following specifications:

- **CIM Operations over HTTP Preliminary Standard**

A preliminary release 1.3 of the CIM Operations over HTTP Preliminary Standard ([DSP0200](#)) has also been announced. DSP0200 defines a mapping of CIM Messages onto HTTP that allows implementations of CIM to operate in an open, standardized manner. It also defines the notion of conformance in the context of this mapping, and describes what behavior an implementation of CIM must exhibit in order to be described as a conforming CIM implementation.

- **Representation of CIM in XML & DTD**

This month, DMTF issued a preliminary release 2.3 of the Representation of CIM in XML specification ([DSP0201](#)). The spec defines an XML grammar, written in DTD (Document Type Definition), [DSP0203](#), which can be used both to represent CIM declarations (Classes, Instances and Qualifiers) and CIM Messages for use by the CIM Operations over HTTP.

Platform Watchdog Profile

Version 1.0 of the Platform Watchdog Profile specification ([DSP1040](#)) has been released as a preliminary standard. DSP1040 is represented in version 2.0 of the Systems Management Architecture for Server Hardware ([SMASH 2.0](#)) Initiative. The Platform Watchdog Profile is a mechanism with a timer in it. The operating system refreshes the timer periodically; if the timer is not refreshed, the system is rebooted (thus an operator does not have to wait to refresh the timer).

Platform Watchdog Profile SM CLP Command Mapping

A preliminary release 1.0 of the Platform Watchdog Profile SM CLP Command Mapping ([DSP0831](#)) has been issued by DMTF. DSP0831 is also represented in the SMASH 2.0 Initiative as it is a Platform Watchdog Profile for Server Management (SM) Command Line Protocol (CLP) Command Mapping.

PCI Device Profile

DMTF has announced a preliminary release 1.0 of the PCI Device Profile ([DSP1075](#)) specification. DSP1075 is referenced in SMASH 2.0, and is meant to allow representation and management of PCI Devices, which includes PCI, PCI-X and PCI Express®, bridge and switch devices. The spec manages the PCI information of most controllers in machines today.

Resource Allocation Profile

DMTF has announced the preliminary release 1.1 of the Resource Allocation Profile ([DSP1041](#)) specification, which was prepared by the [System Virtualization, Partitioning, and Clustering Work Group](#) (SVPC). DSP1041 is an abstract profile that extends the management capability of referencing profiles by adding the capability to represent the allocation of resources to consumers. This includes allocation of underlying supporting resources, such as power and cooling, and the allocation of computing resources, such as processors and memory. The resources may be virtualized.

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Printer Working Group and DMTF

[Printer Working Group](#) (PWG) and DMTF have been working together since 2005 to tailor the [Common Information Model](#) (CIM) to the printing industry. The PWG model of printing is currently embodied in standards such as the IETF Printer MIB, the PWG Semantic Model, the Internet Printing Protocol, the Job Monitoring MIB, and a number of other PWG-developed standards. The Alliance set out to update the existing CIM of the printer device, print services, and print jobs to include the variety and semantics of all of these standards.

Technical representatives within PWG have worked with the [CIM Core Schema Working Group](#) to define a new architectural model of a printer device, which is represented by new CIM classes for the independent components of a printer, such as input trays, output trays, markers, and communications channels. PWG has submitted 24 schema change requests so far to establish new CIM classes and update existing classes.

After printers, the alliance will update printer accounting information and the models of print services and print jobs.

For the past 15 years, PWG has developed most of the printing management standards in the industry. PWG embraces more than just printers; new models are being developed for multi-function devices (print, scan, copy and fax) and video projectors, which will also be expressed in CIM. PWG is also consisted of more than just printer manufacturers; major participants include OS vendors and printing software developers who are interested in the future of printer standards-based management.

DMTF Growth: From 12 to 150+ specs

At DMTF, we have established ourselves as an organization that brings together key technologies. We are in the middle of an exciting period for DMTF as the scope of standards developed by the organization has rapidly broadened. In just the past few years, DMTF has seen standards activities on a wide range of platform management, Web services and virtualization efforts. As a result, the number of specifications published by DMTF has grown from a dozen to more than 150 during this short period. At the same time, DMTF continues to expand its scope both from activities within DMTF and through our growing [alliances](#).

Keeping up with the myriad of developing management standards is a challenge we all face. There can be a steep learning curve to understand DMTF standards in order to make business decisions related to the standards and develop compliant solutions. The upcoming [Management Developers Conference](#) offers a unique opportunity to increase knowledge of standards development and other activities within DMTF. Whether you are a decision-maker, developer or customer, MDC will increase your understanding of DMTF technologies and provide valuable skills and insights.

For those wanting to learn more about [SMASH](#), [DASH](#), [CIM](#), [WBEM](#), [CDM](#), SMI, Web Services or Virtualization (including [OVF](#)), MDC offers the opportunity to learn about these standards from the specification [authors and key contributors](#). Not only will attendees receive ample opportunities to attend [sessions](#), but they will also get direct interaction with some of the most talented and knowledgeable individuals in our industry. For more information about MDC and to register with your DMTF member discount,

Call for Contributors

DMTF invites you to contribute to *Management Matters*. DMTF welcomes letters to the editor, topic suggestions and other contributions. If you would like to participate, email us at press@dmtof.org.

click [here](#).

A main driver behind the success of DMTF standards and the expanding scope of our work is the solid foundation we've built with the development of CIM. As the celebration of the 10th anniversary of CIM approaches, we see the development of the data models, operations and protocols used in management standardization reaching a level of maturity that is heretofore unprecedented in our industry. I hope you join me at MDC 2007 – not only to celebrate the 10th anniversary of CIM, but also to gain a better understanding of the wide range of management standards published by DMTF.

For more information about the variety of DMTF technologies, please feel free to contact Jeff Hilland, VP of Technology, at vp-technology@dmf.org.

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Featured Q&A

Question:

Who are DMTF's members?

Answer:

With more than 4,000 active participants representing 44 countries and nearly 200 organizations, DMTF brings the technology industry's customers and top vendors together in a collaborative, work group approach that involves DMTF members in all aspects of specification development and refinement. DMTF board member companies include:

- [Advanced Micro Devices](#)
- [Broadcom](#)
- [Dell](#)
- [EMC](#)
- [Fujitsu](#)
- [Hewlett-Packard Company](#)
- [Hitachi, Ltd.](#)
- [IBM](#)
- [Intel Corporation](#)
- [Microsoft Corporation](#)
- [Novell](#)
- [Sun Microsystems, Inc.](#)
- [Symantec Corporation](#)
- [WBEM Solutions](#)

EVENTS

SVM '07 a Success!

The first annual DMTF Academic Alliance Conference, [Systems and Virtualization Management 2007](#), was a huge hit. Held in Toulouse, France, on October 23–24, DMTF sponsored its first annual workshop dedicated to academic research on standards and new technologies for systems and virtualization management with the generous help of IRIT (Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse).

Fourteen papers were presented from academic leaders from around the world, including France, Spain, Germany, Tunisia, Egypt, China, India, Canada, and the USA. Representatives from industry leaders such as Dell, HP, Intel, IBM, KACE, Sun, Inova Europe Inc., and Symantec were also in attendance.

Review the conference presentations [here](#), and look for the next Academic Alliance event in Fall 2008.

DMTF at Gartner Data Center Conference

Mark your calendars for the 26th annual [Gartner Data Center Conference](#) held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 27–30. In just three-and-a-half packed days, the event will present a comprehensive look at best practices from throughout the data center field, as well as cover topics such as servers, IT operations, storage, business continuity, and disaster recovery.

As a Silver Sponsor of the Gartner Data Center Conference, DMTF will have a booth at the event to highlight:

- [SMASH](#) – Systems Management Architecture for Server Hardware (SMASH) Initiative
- [DASH](#) – Desktop and mobile Architecture for System Hardware (DASH) Initiative
- [CDM](#) – The Common Diagnostic Model (CDM) Initiative

To learn more about the Gartner Data Center Conference, [click here](#).

CIM 10th Anniversary Party at MDC

With the 10th anniversary of the [Common Information Model](#) (CIM) standard fast approaching, DMTF is toasting to the decade-old technology by hosting a party on Monday, December 3, from 6–8 p.m. Co-located with the upcoming [Management Developers Conference](#) (MDC) at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, California, the CIM 10th anniversary party will celebrate the DMTF achievement with a few drinks and honor our 2007 Star Award winners. DMTF invites MDC attendees to attend the celebration. If you are not registered for MDC, but would like to attend the party, please RSVP at press@dmtof.org.

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Demos and Plugfests at MDC

Mark your calendar for the third annual [Management Developers Conference](#) (MDC) on December 3–6 at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, California. Don't forget to [register](#) and check out the [schedule](#) for MDC.

The four-day event will feature a dedicated Demo and Interop area where attendees can meet and interact with the industry experts developing and implementing various standards-based management technologies.

In this area, the [System Management Forum](#) (SMF) has sponsored a space to showcase demos of implementations based on [DASH](#), [SMASH](#) and related tools. If you would like to include demos of any related tools for compliance testing or enablement, contact vp-marketing@dmtof.org.

In addition to the demos, SMF will host private SMASH and DASH plugfests concurrently with MDC. The [System Virtualization, Partitioning and Clustering](#) (SVPC) Working Group is also sponsoring its first-ever plugfest nearby. These plugfests are open to DMTF members only, and will be held on Monday, December 3, and Tuesday, December 4, at the following nearby locations: Symantec Education Center in Mountain View and Intel's Santa Clara site.

If you are a DMTF member company and would like more information on participating in the DASH or SMASH plugfests, contact smf-leadership@dmtof.org. For more information about the SVPC plugfest, contact tm-redundancy-chair@dmtof.org.

CDM Event at MDC

In conjunction with MDC, the [Common Diagnostic Model \(CDM\) Forum](#) is hosting a showcase event on December 3 at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, California.

The CDM System Health Management Initiative focuses on:

- Unifying the industry on a single interoperable, secure and functionally rich interface for diagnostics
- Rallying the industry to promote and accelerate adoption of the [CDM initiative](#)
- Enabling the construction of autonomic, multi-vendor health management solutions
- Streamlining integration practices in the computer industry
- Providing IT Consumers with more agile, available, and manageable computing platforms

The CDM Forum has also sponsored a space in the Demo and Interop area at MDC. Those of you attending the conference will have an opportunity to take a closer look at CDM providers and applications.

For information about the event and registration details, [click here](#).

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Quote of the Month

Jorma Ollila, Chairman of Nokia's Board of Directors when presenting the Nokia Foundation Award to Mårten Mickos (2006):
"Open standards and platforms create a foundation for success. They enable interoperability of technologies and encourage innovativeness and healthy competition, which in turn increases consumer choice and opens entirely new markets."

Member Feedback Welcomed

We are continually improving our newsletter and welcome your input. Please send any comments or suggestions to press@dmtof.org.

Recent Vblogs on DMTF

DMTF President Winston Bumpus recently sat down with Michael Cote, [RedMonk](#) analyst, to talk about the variety of topics and standards that DMTF is involved in, including [CIM](#), [WS-Management](#), [DASH](#), [SMASH](#), and [OVE](#). To watch the video blog, click [here](#).

In addition, Kevin Cline, VP of Initiatives, was also featured in a Vblog interview with Yllian Saint-Hilaire at the Fall Intel Developer Forum. They talked about the [DASH](#) and [SMASH](#) initiatives. To view the Vblog from Intel's Software Network Videos, [click here](#).

Member Survey Results: Management Tool Development

In this series, DMTF continues to report on findings from its annual member survey conducted in January 2007. About 124 members responded at length to our survey. We asked the members to rank their most important priority for management tool development.

Management Tool Development					
	1	2	3	4	5
Power Tool Development	34%	22%	16%	13%	15%
Client Tool Development	19%	35%	14%	17%	16%
Model Tool Development	16%	19%	31%	17%	16%
Integration Tool Development (e.g. between applications, between tiers)	15%	16%	27%	30%	12%
Administration Tool Development (e.g. performance, network sniffers, topology viewers)	20%	14%	14%	19%	34%