



# Implementing Reinsurance XML: [Or Trying To]

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# Joint Venture: A History Lesson - The Good Old Days

- Formed 1992
- BRMA, RAA, LIMNET and RINET
- EDIFACT Reinsurance standards developed
- IVANS and WIN joined later
- LIMNET, RINET and WIN merged into WISe
- WISe took over standards management in 2000
- JVXML developed with input from ACORD and IVANS
- ACORD took over in 2001
- ANSI Meetings

# EDIFACT Standards

- RETACC (Accounting)
- RECLAM (Claims)
- RESETT (Cash Management)
- REBORD (Bordereaux)
- RECORD+ (Placing)
- Take-up was spotty

# The Infamous 'Black Box'

- Prepackaged solution
- Supported by Rinet [and IVANS in the US]
- Initially supported the RETACC
- Produced a structured flat file for processing
- GUI added later with relational db support

# Early Adopters

- Swiss Re
- Alexander Re
- AIG
- American Re
- AON Re
- Gen Re
- NAC Re

# Implementing EDIFACT EDI Part 1

- Scheduled job ran on a daily basis
- Pick-up from Advantis [dial-up]
- Translate the inbound data into Borland database
- Front end catalog listing all transactions
- View or print via Crystal Reports
- Rip and tear

# JVXML

- Developed during a period of intense activity
- Based on the JV data dictionary
- Every business element present in EDIFACT mapped
- Resulting DTD challenged many of the tools we used

# The Pilot

- JvXML pilot validated the XML models
- XSL used to transform documents for presentation
- Need for a catalog of documents
- Programming using DOM via MSXML to create a catalog
- Need for a transport layer
- Support for unstructured documents

# Black Box RIP

- Black Box user group informed
- Joint search for a replacement
- Little support for Reinsurance messages
- Custom solutions expensive
- XL decided to go it alone

# XL Business Needs

- Reinsurance EDI
- ALIR mandated
- Banking EDI
- Need to meet corporate IT standards
- XML seen as future direction
- Single solution needed to reduce expenses related to multiple platforms

# The Requirements

- EDIFACT messages support
- X.12 messages support
- Banking messages
- Strong XML support
- Rich management toolset
- Varied communications options

# Search For A Replacement

- Examined many solutions
- Most were very expensive
- XML support extremely limited
- Only IVANS offered custom support for reinsurance XML
- Limited set of admin tools

## The Solution - Softshare

- Native support for EDIFACT and X.12 messages [including JV]
- Strong XML support
- Data administrator
- Log viewer
- EDI Notepad
- Trading partner management
- Numerous communication channels supported
- Restaging made easy

## Implementing EDIFACT EDI Part 2

- Installed Softshare
- Migrated from Borland database to SQL server
- Contracted with Softshare to develop maps into SQL server repository
- Still some rip and tear
- Scheduled deliveries throught the day
- Feed to XL Reinsurance system twice daily

# Is Anyone Out There?

- Lots of hat but no cattle
- Limited budget allocation without demonstration of XML enabled trading partners
- Ceding company promise failed to materialize
- Security concerns

# ACORD SOAP

- Defined in 2003
- Tested with some trading partners
- Will form a critical foundation for XML
- Elegantly supports restoration of sequence integrity
- Handles payloads well

# Security

- Still being defined
- Impacts implementation in certain areas
- Certificates
- Channel security

## Document Repository Interoperability

- Access to back-up documentation vital
- Need to seamlessly integrate structured data with unstructured
- London requirements vs US
- Proprietary methods abound
- Metadata and document descriptions need better definition

## Our Next Search

- Requirements changed
- SOAP support essential
- Schema support critical
- Channel level security
- Data level security
- Compatibility with what we are already doing

# Potential Solutions

- Several companies already using Softshare
- Examined the use of add-ins to support SOAP and schema
- Examined other products
- Softshare delivered on its promise at the Softshare user conference
- Certified this week

## Where We Are Now

- Working with iec Technologies to implement ECS 4.0
- In pilot with 4 other participants
- Ensuring that the product meets ACORD needs
- Will conduct B2B tests with partners
- Need to enhance security at the data level

# A Moving Target

- Globalization has resulted in increased MRs
- Limited implementation
- Vicious circle effect
- Impact

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Questions?

