Linked Data for Parts Management

Alberto Cassola Vice President XSB Inc.



ELYSIUM

S EDJENN

(BOEING

Background

- A project sponsored by Department of Defense (DOD) to make its vast supply chain more efficient
- XSB has developed the PartLink platform
 - Information about 40M component parts
 - Their manufacturers and suppliers
 - Materials, technical characteristics and more
- Using Semantic Web Standards
 - Provide a consistent format for data exchange
 - Model a large collection of engineering product information









About XSB

- Specializes in parts data management solutions
 - Integrated system to acquire, categorize, and standardize product data
 - Large public procurement knowledge base; ~65M Items of Supply
 - Products, Sources, Prices, Technical Characteristics, etc.
- Patented technologies and semantic web solutions
- Aerospace, Government and MRO concentration























XSB Partners























Master Data File (MDF) Technology

Global Product Data Interoperability Summit | 2014

Parts Management - MDF



Web Service API

Web Crawlers

In a recent study XSB identified \$5.5B in savings from the elimination of duplicate parts across three Fortune 100 companies.









The Situation

Global Product Data Interoperability Summit | 2014

EXTENSIVE, DISPARATE DATA

- The Government manages information on more than 40 million component parts purchased by the DOD
- Multiple sources including manufacturers and distributors
- Specification and standard documents, both public and private, are also part of this extensive data collection
- Data is dispersed among a variety of databases and documents
- The information is not standardized or linked together
- No single source which contains all of the information needed to make effective parts management decisions

A VARIETY OF USER FUNCTIONS AND NEEDS

- Procurement officers are interested in part selection, sourcing, availability, price, obsolescence, and more.
- Maintenance personnel require information on repair and replacement procedures, testing







Our Objective

Global Product Data Interoperability Summit | 2014

Make one of the largest parts databases in existence interoperable with data on the web, and provide a reliable means to exchange and use information across the DOD supply chain.









Technical Approach

- Use W3C Semantic Web Standards to build an interoperable digital model for the semantics of parts and the specifications that govern them
- Leverage the infrastructure of the internet to operate at Web scale
- Publish parts management data as a linked data model utilizing a set of Web Resources with Uniform Resource Identifiers (URI)
- Develop an Application Programming Interface (API)
- Engage industry, standards bodies and Government in the development and adoption of standards

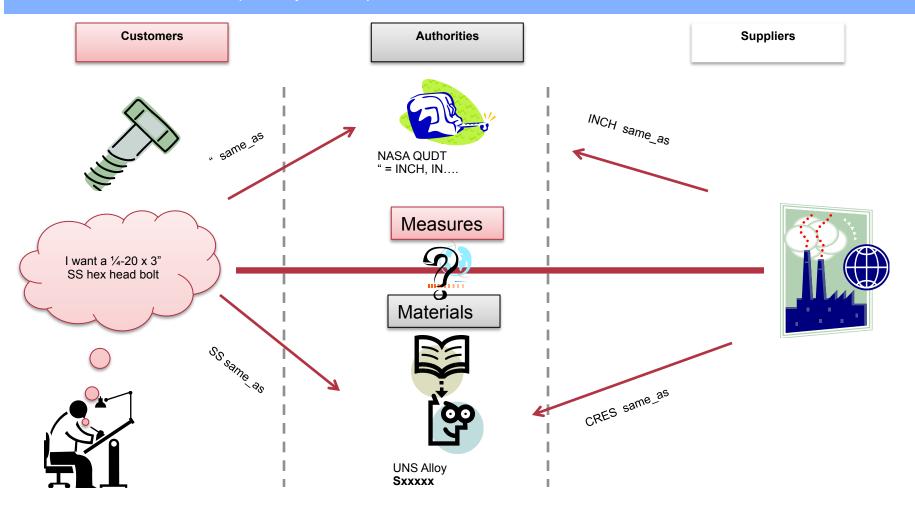








Linked Data Interoperability



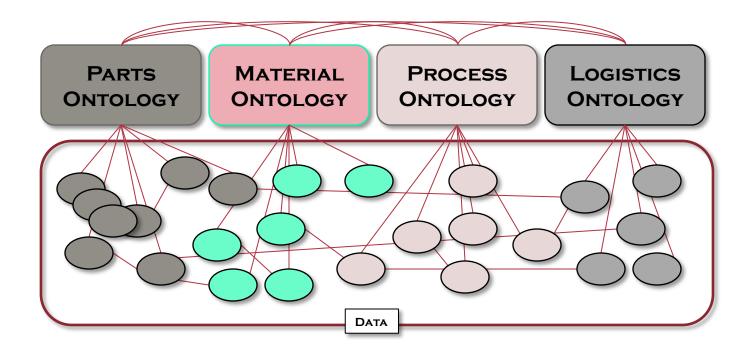








Ontology











Part Classes:

Global Product Data Interoperability Summit | 2014

Bearing



Connector









Impact

- PartLink represents a big convergence in parts management
 - Database enhancements
 - Linking more related and highly useful information
 - Semantic technology
 - Increasing processing capability for creating better knowledge
- Potential gains for DOD
 - Greater parts information means better buying efficiency
 - Smaller logistics footprint and greater effectiveness









Aerospace Supply Chain

Global Product Data Interoperability Summit | 2014

Primes/ (OEM):

Boeing, Northrop Grumman

Tier 1 Suppliers

Includes: structure, propulsion, pneumationsystem, flight

control, navigation, fuel system, electrical power, etc.

Engines: Rolls-Royce, GE Aviation

Wings: BAE plc

Undercarriage: Smiths

Tier 2 Suppliers

Includes: suppliers of hydraulic pumps, motors,

controls, etc

Tier 3 Suppliers

Includes: suppliers of components and parts such as solenoid, piston, O' Ring, cylinder & connectors



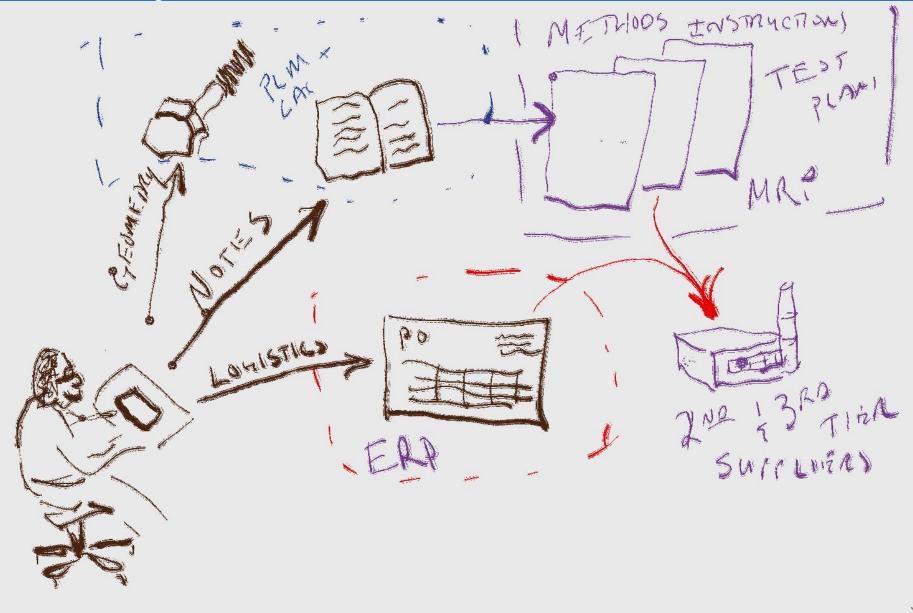








The Reality



Future Direction

- Leverage PartLink to provide data standardization as-a-service
- Support public/private supply chain partnerships
- Develop new applications for industry
- Allow developers to build their own applications
 - Shared, searchable data marts
 - Agile access to data analytics









Questions?

email: a.cassola@xsb.com







Contributions Welcome

Global Product Data Interoperability Summit | 2014

App Developer Challenge

Develop Applications using the PartLink data model

Cash prizes – best App earns \$5,000

Join us in building the Industrial Semantic Web

https://partlink.xsb.com









Example Apps

- NSN Information Search
- Weapon System Information
- 3D Model Research







