

Standards Evolution Process

The Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Initiative continues to work with a variety of organizations to coordinate the development and adoption of technical standards that enable Internet-based delivery of rich learning content.

Gradually, a new process emerged and a better coordination among standards groups than in years past. ADL continues to provide a catalytic role by providing a solid test bed environment in the ADL Co-Lab and by integrating and extending work from organizations around the world.

Among ADL's greatest achievements has been the coordination with multiple (global) organizations to establish a unified (and non-duplicative) standard process that is industry-based. The maintenance of these agreements is ongoing.

With research and development efforts being fed into organizations, including the Aviation Industry Computer-Based Training Committee (AICC), the Alliance of Remote Instructional Authoring and Distribution Networks for Europe (ARIADNE), the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative, the IMS Global Learning Consortium and additional organizations, these small efforts grow into e-learning specifications.

For those specifications that reach a mature enough state and are of interest, ADL would provide the testing and proof of concepts to correspond with the specifications developed in the Specification Consortia or Specification group to create a development and testing model used to modify the specifications.

This is a continual process of ADL feeding lessons learned, deficiencies and comments back into the specification group to be evaluated for inclusion in the specifications themselves.

Once the specification is agreed upon it may get passed on to a standard bodies organization such as the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C).

The continual process of feeding information back to the standards bodies organization will occur again and again before the documents move from a specification to an accredited standard.