

# Australian Technical Specification

## **Electronic transfer of prescriptions**

### **Part 6: Platform implementation specific web service**



This Australian Technical Specification was prepared by Committee IT-014, Health informatics. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 April 2013.

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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Technical Specification through their representation on the Committee.

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# Australian Technical Specification

## **Electronic transfer of prescriptions**

### **Part 6: Platform implementation specific web service**

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## PREFACE

This Australian Technical Specification was prepared by the Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014, Health Informatics.

The Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014 recognizes the work of the Standards Australia Working Group IT-014-06-04, Prescription Messaging, in the preparation of this Technical Specification.

The purpose of this document is to define the role behaviours and service interfaces for the ATS 4888 series, *Electronic transfer of prescriptions* (ETP).

This document is the sixth in a series of Technical Specifications that collectively define a method for ETP in Australia. The series comprises the following parts:

### ATS

4888		Electronic transfer of prescriptions
4888.1	Part 1:	Platform independent (logical) information model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions
4888.2	Part 2:	Platform independent (logical) services model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions
4888.3	Part 3:	Platform implementation specific e-prescription HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide
4888.4	Part 4:	Platform implementation specific dispense record HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide
4888.5	Part 5:	Platform implementation specific prescription request HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide
4888.6	Part 6:	Platform implementation specific web service

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Technical Specification to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Technical Specification, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is for information and guidance only.

This publication has been developed with assistance from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. The Australian Government makes no representation or warranty that the information in this publication is correct and accurate.

Standards Australia wishes to thank the Department of Health and Ageing for its continued financial support in helping to develop this Australian Technical Specification.

**NOTE:** This document is an Australian Technical Specification; it is not an Australian Standard. An Australian Technical Specification is a normative document that has been subject to a limited form of transparency and does not have the support of the full consensus process normally associated with an Australian Standard.

An Australian Technical Specification is often prepared in a field where the subject matter, or a related aspect such as the regulatory environment, is undergoing rapid change and where speed of delivery, rather than full consensus, is of paramount importance. In such cases, it would normally be expected that an Australian Standard would eventually be developed to supersede the Technical Specification.

An Australian Technical Specification is subject to at least limited peer review, with the option of going to full Public Comment if deemed warranted.

These documents were prepared as Technical Specifications outlining a goal state for ETP and as Specifications for any new implementations of ETP to follow as a baseline. However, it is necessary to highlight that many 'external factors', such as pre-existing implementations and other national infrastructure elements (e.g. the National Authentication Service for Health, Individual Health Identifier, Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record), exist, and will affect the transition to this Specification and its adoption across the sector.

It is the goal in the coming years for these Specifications to progress to Australian Standards; however, the Working Group acknowledges that, for this to occur, a number of these 'external factors' will need to mature and that these factors may also augment the content of the Specification prior to its progression to a Standard.

Given the large number of stakeholders involved in ETP (including at least two existing Prescription Exchanges, at least 40 software vendors, and more than 5000 pharmacies and 40 000 prescribers), it is clear that a pathway for transition to this Specification by the key stakeholders will need to be agreed upon.

The support and management of the stakeholders in this transition will be a key element in the adoption of this Specification across the sector; however, the responsibility for transition is outside the scope of work for the Working Group which has prepared these documents.

This transition is also likely to affect any assessment of conformance against these Specifications and it should be noted that any conformance assessment should take into consideration 'real world' maturity and an ability to conform fully to this Specification. In that regard a conformance profile may be required to differ from this Specification; however, the producers of that profile should be explicit as to where those differences lie and why they are present.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Technical Specification**  
**Electronic transfer of prescriptions**

Part 6: Platform implementation specific web service

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Technical Specification defines an implementable, platform-dependent technical services specification for an Electronic Transfer of Prescriptions (ETP) package using web services.

**1.2 INTENDED AUDIENCE**

This Technical Specification is intended for a technical audience, including (but not limited to) members and representatives of—

- (a) Commonwealth, state and territory health departments, and Department of Human Services Medicare;
- (b) the Australian healthcare Standards development community;
- (c) organizations that produce software products used to generate prescriptions;
- (d) organizations that produce software products used by community pharmacies to dispense medications; and
- (e) organizations that operate (or plan to operate) services that transfer electronic prescriptions.

This is a technical document defining web services and associated XML Schemas based on UML specifications. Familiarity with web service definition language (WSDL), XML and UML 2.3 standards is assumed.<sup>1</sup>

**1.3 NORMATIVE REFERENCES**

The following documents are the normative documents referenced in this Technical Specification:

ATS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 4888   | Electronic transfer of prescriptions  |
| 4888.1 | Part 1: Platform independent (logical) information model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions              |
| 4888.2 | Part 2: Platform independent (logical) services model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions                 |
| 4888.3 | Part 3: Platform implementation specific e-prescription HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide       |
| 4888.4 | Part 4: Platform implementation specific dispense record HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide      |
| 4888.5 | Part 5: Platform implementation specific prescription request HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide |

NOTE: Documents for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

<sup>1</sup> Unified Modelling Language Version 2.3, Object Management Group, 2010



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