

PLCS Requirements for a Units Ontology



Use Case: PLCS

- » OASIS Product Life Cycle Support Technical Committee
 - creating standards used by organizations such as the UK MoD to integrate data between applications used to support Ships, Aircraft, etc.
- The standard has three parts
 - A schema for the data exchange itself (e.g. XML Schema)
 - Specs telling how to use the schema elements for a particular exchange (they call these Data Exchange Specifications or DEXs)
 - » Feedback about about maintenance applied to an aircraft, for example
 - An OWL ontology defining classes used to add detailed semantics to concepts in the exchange
 - » Kinds of Maintenance Tasks for example



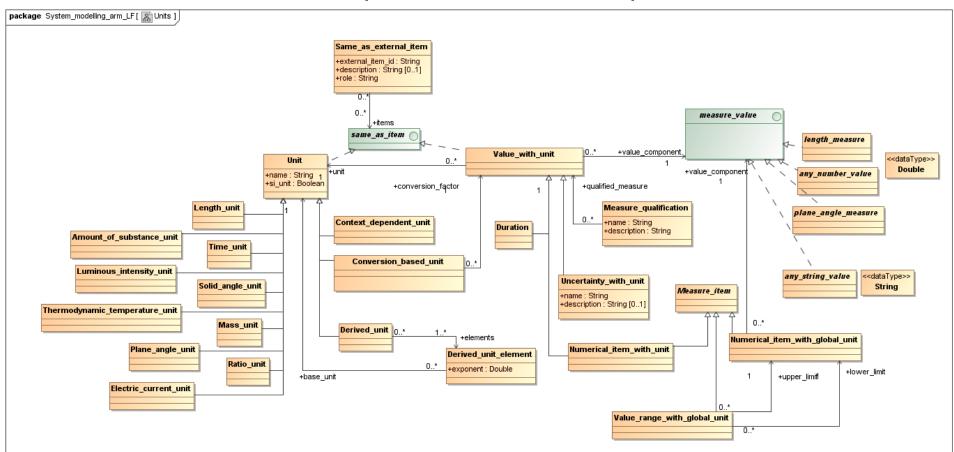
Relating exchange data and the ontology

- To relate the data in an exchange file with the OWL ontology two relationships are defined within the schema itself
 - Classification_assignment allows the statement that the instance in the exchange file is a member of a class in the ontology
 - » rdf:type
 - Same_as_external_item allows the statement that the instance in the exchange file is the same thing as a class or individual in the ontology
 - » owl:sameAs



Values with Units in schema

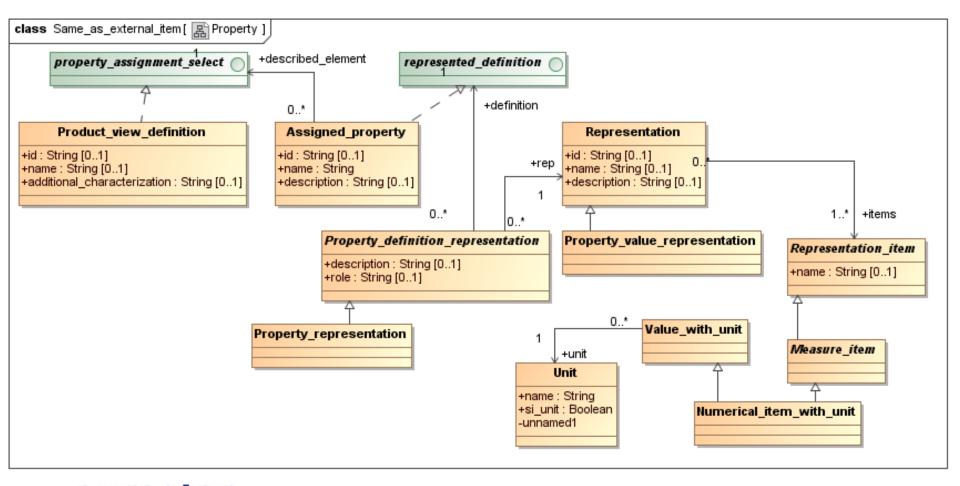
> Value has value component and unit component





Property in schema

Thing is assigned property that has representations made up of items (numerical items are only one kind)





Overall need

- Ontologies that
 - Include Library of properties to relate to Assigned_property
 - Include Library of Units (i.e. SI units)
 - Are extensible by using organizations
 - » Number of sorties for aircraft, PersonDay
 - Have cross-industry consensus
 - » ISO TC 184 SC 4 Industrial Data
 - ISO 10303-239 as basis of PLCS
 - ISO 10303-233 Systems Engineering (AP233)
 - ISO 15926 for Oil and Gas
 - » OASIS PLCS TC for ontologies and DEXs
 - » OMG Systems Engineering
 - Standardizing AP233-OMG SysML mapping
 - AP233 will use same Units ontology as PLCS



Short Term Needs

- » PLCS Version 1 passed OASIS ballot
 - Resolving ballot comments against existing PLCS OWL ontologies based on existing schema
 - » Many problems with units part of ontology
 - » Added Same as capability to schema for use with units
- » Approach we want to take
 - Replace subclasses of Unit in schema with use of Units ontology
 - » Instance of Unit in exchange file is same as individual of type Unit in ontology
 - Depend on "units experts" to get it right rather than doing it in OASIS PLCS TC if possible



Desired result

