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**Information technology — Object  
Management Group — Common Object  
Request Broker Architecture (CORBA) —  
Part 2:  
Interoperability**

*Technologies de l'information — OMG (Object Management Group) —  
CORBA (Common Object Request Broker Architecture) —*

*Partie 2: Interopérabilité*



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# Table of Contents

Foreword .....	ix
Introduction .....	xi
1 Scope .....	1
2 Conformance and Compliance .....	1
2.1 Unreliable Multicast .....	2
3 Normative References .....	2
3.1 Other Specifications .....	3
4 Terms and definitions .....	3
4.1 Recommendations   International Standards.....	4
4.2 Terms Defined in this Part of ISO/IEC 19500 .....	4
4.3 Keywords for Requirement statements .....	5
5 Symbols (and abbreviated terms) .....	6
6 Interoperability Overview .....	7
6.1 General.....	7
6.2 Elements of Interoperability .....	7
6.2.1 ORB Interoperability Architecture .....	7
6.2.2 Inter-ORB Bridge Support .....	7
6.2.3 General Inter-ORB Protocol (GIOP) .....	8
6.2.4 Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP)® .....	8
6.2.5 Environment-Specific Inter-ORB Protocols (ESIOPs) .....	9
6.3 Relationship to Previous Versions of CORBA .....	9
6.4 Examples of Interoperability Solutions .....	10
6.4.1 Example 1 .....	10
6.4.2 Example 2 .....	10

6.4.3 Example 3 .....	10
6.4.4 Interoperability Compliance .....	10
6.5 Motivating Factors .....	13
6.5.1 ORB Implementation Diversity .....	13
6.5.2 ORB Boundaries .....	13
6.5.3 ORBs Vary in Scope, Distance, and Lifetime .....	13
6.6 Interoperability Design Goals.....	14
6.6.1 Non-Goals .....	14
<b>7 ORB Interoperability Architecture .....</b>	<b>15</b>
7.1 Overview.....	15
7.1.1 Domains .....	15
7.1.2 Bridging Domains .....	15
7.2 ORBs and ORB Services.....	16
7.2.1 The Nature of ORB Services .....	16
7.2.2 ORB Services and Object Requests .....	16
7.2.3 Selection of ORB Services .....	17
7.3 Domains.....	17
7.3.1 Definition of a Domain .....	18
7.3.2 Mapping Between Domains: Bridging .....	19
7.4 Interoperability Between ORBs.....	19
7.4.1 ORB Services and Domains .....	19
7.4.2 ORBs and Domains .....	20
7.4.3 Interoperability Approaches .....	20
7.4.4 Policy-Mediated Bridging .....	22
7.4.5 Configurations of Bridges in Networks .....	22
7.5 Object Addressing .....	23
7.5.1 Domain-relative Object Referencing .....	24
7.5.2 Handling of Referencing Between Domains .....	24
7.6 An Information Model for Object References.....	25
7.6.1 What Information Do Bridges Need? .....	25
7.6.2 Interoperable Object References: IORs .....	25
7.6.3 IOR Profiles .....	26
7.6.4 Standard IOR Profiles .....	28
7.6.5 IOR Components .....	29
7.6.6 Standard IOR Components .....	29
7.6.7 Profile and Component Composition in IORs .....	31
7.6.8 IOR Creation and Scope .....	32
7.6.9 Stringified Object References .....	32

7.6.10 Object URLs .....	33
7.7 Service Context .....	37
7.7.1 Standard Service Contexts .....	38
7.7.2 Service Context Processing Rules .....	40
7.8 Coder/Decoder Interfaces .....	40
7.8.1 Codec Interface .....	40
7.8.2 Codec Factory .....	42
7.9 Feature Support and GIOP Versions.....	43
7.10 Code Set Conversion .....	45
7.10.1 Character Processing Terminology .....	45
7.10.2 Code Set Conversion Framework .....	48
7.10.3 Mapping to Generic Character Environments .....	54
7.10.4 Example of Generic Environment Mapping .....	56
7.10.5 Relevant OSFM Registry Interfaces .....	56
<b>8 Building Inter-ORB Bridges .....</b>	<b>63</b>
8.1 Introduction.....	63
8.2 In-Line and Request-Level Bridging .....	63
8.2.1 In-line Bridging .....	64
8.2.2 Request-level Bridging .....	64
8.2.3 Collocated ORBs .....	65
8.3 Proxy Creation and Management.....	66
8.4 Interface-specific Bridges and Generic Bridges .....	66
8.5 Building Generic Request-Level Bridges.....	66
8.6 Bridging Non-Referencing Domains .....	67
8.7 Bootstrapping Bridges .....	68
<b>9 General Inter-ORB Protocol .....</b>	<b>69</b>
9.1 Overview.....	69
9.2 Goals of the General Inter-ORB Protocol .....	69
9.3 GIOP Overview.....	69
9.3.1 Common Data Representation (CDR) .....	70
9.3.2 GIOP Message Overview .....	70
9.3.3 GIOP Message Transfer .....	71
9.4 CDR Transfer Syntax .....	71

9.4.1 Primitive Types .....	72
9.4.2 OMG IDL Constructed Types .....	77
9.4.3 Encapsulation .....	79
9.4.4 Value Types .....	80
9.4.5 Pseudo-Object Types .....	87
9.4.6 Object References .....	93
9.4.7 Abstract Interfaces .....	93
9.5 GIOP Message Formats .....	93
9.5.1 GIOP Message Header .....	94
9.5.2 Request Message .....	96
9.5.3 Reply Message .....	99
9.5.4 CancelRequest Message .....	102
9.5.5 LocateRequest Message .....	103
9.5.6 LocateReply Message .....	104
9.5.7 CloseConnection Message .....	106
9.5.8 MessageError Message .....	106
9.5.9 Fragment Message .....	106
9.6 GIOP Message Transport.....	107
9.6.1 Connection Management .....	108
9.6.2 Message Ordering .....	109
9.7 Object Location.....	110
9.8 Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP).....	111
9.8.1 TCP/IP Connection Usage .....	111
9.8.2 IIOP IOR Profiles .....	112
9.8.3 IIOP IOR Profile Components .....	114
9.9 Bi-Directional GIOP .....	115
9.9.1 Bi-directional IIOP .....	117
9.10 Bi-directional GIOP policy.....	118
9.11 OMG IDL.....	118
9.11.1 GIOP Module .....	118
9.11.2 IIOP Module .....	123
9.11.3 BiDirPolicy Module .....	124
<b>10 Secure Interoperability .....</b>	<b>125</b>
10.1 Overview.....	125
10.1.1 Assumptions .....	126
10.2 Protocol Message Definitions .....	127
10.2.1 The Security Attribute Service Context Element .....	127

10.2.2 SAS context_data Message Body Types .....	127
10.2.3 Authorization Token Format .....	132
10.2.4 Client Authentication Token Format .....	133
10.2.5 Identity Token Format .....	135
10.2.6 Principal Names and Distinguished Names .....	136
10.3 Security Attribute Service Protocol .....	137
10.3.1 Compound Mechanisms .....	137
10.3.2 Session Semantics .....	141
10.3.3 TSS State Machine .....	143
10.3.4 CSS State Machine .....	146
10.3.5 ContextError Values and Exceptions .....	149
10.4 Transport Security Mechanisms .....	150
10.4.1 Transport Layer Interoperability .....	150
10.4.2 Transport Mechanism Configuration .....	150
10.5 Interoperable Object References .....	151
10.5.1 Target Security Configuration .....	151
10.5.2 Client-side Mechanism Selection .....	160
10.5.3 Client-Side Requirements and Location Binding .....	161
10.5.4 Server Side Consideration .....	162
10.6 Conformance Levels .....	162
10.6.1 Conformance Level 0 .....	162
10.6.2 Conformance Level 1 .....	163
10.6.3 Conformance Level 2 .....	163
10.6.4 Stateful Conformance .....	164
10.7 Sample Message Flows and Scenarios .....	164
10.7.1 Confidentiality, Trust in Server, and Trust in Client Established in the Connection .....	165
10.7.2 Confidentiality and Trust in Server Established in the Connection - Stateless Trust in Client Established in Service Context .....	167
10.7.3 Confidentiality, Trust in Server, and Trust in Client Established in the Connection Stateless Trust Association Established in Service Context .....	169
10.7.4 Confidentiality, Trust in Server, and Trust in Client Established in the Connection - Stateless Forward Trust Association Established in Service Context .....	172
10.8 References .....	173
10.9 IDL .....	174
10.9.1 Module GSSUP - Username/Password GSSAPI Token Formats .....	174
10.9.2 Module CSI - Common Secure Interoperability .....	175
10.9.3 Module CSIIOP - CSIV2 IOR Component Tag Definitions .....	179

<b>11</b>	<b>Unreliable Multicast Inter-ORB Protocol .....</b>	<b>183</b>
11.1	Introduction .....	183
11.1.1	Purpose .....	183
11.1.2	MIOP Packet .....	183
11.1.3	Packet Collection .....	183
11.1.4	PacketHeader .....	184
11.1.5	Joining an IP/Multicast Group .....	185
11.1.6	Quality Of Service .....	186
11.1.7	Delivery Requirements .....	186
11.2	MIOP Object Model .....	186
11.2.1	Definition .....	186
11.2.2	Unreliable IP/Multicast Profile Body (UIPMC_ProfileBody) .....	187
11.2.3	Group IOR .....	188
11.2.4	Extending PortableServer::POA to include Group Operations .....	190
11.2.5	MIOP Gateway .....	194
11.2.6	Multicast Group Manager .....	194
11.2.7	MIOP URL .....	210
11.3	Request Issues .....	211
11.3.1	GIOP Request Message Compatibility .....	211
11.3.2	MIOP Request Efficiency .....	211
11.3.3	Client Use Cases .....	212
11.3.4	Server Use Cases .....	213
11.4	Consolidated IDL .....	213
11.4.1	OMG IDL .....	213
<b>Annex A</b>	<b>- Legal Information.....</b>	<b>221</b>
<b>Annex B</b>	<b>- Acknowledgements .....</b>	<b>225</b>



# Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 19500-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC1, Information technology, in collaboration with the Object Management Group (OMG), following the submission and processing as a Publicly Available Specification (PAS) of the OMG Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA) specification Part 2 Version 3.1 CORBA Interoperability.

ISO/IEC 19500-2 is related to:

- ITU-T Recommendation X.902 (1995) | ISO/IEC 10746-2:1996, Information Technology - Open Distributed Processing - Reference Model: Foundations
- ITU-T Recommendation X.903 (1995) | ISO/IEC 10746-3:1996, Information Technology - Open Distributed Processing - Reference Model: Architecture
- ITU-T Recommendation X.920 (1997) | ISO/IEC 14750:1997, Information Technology - Open Distributed Processing - Interface Definition Language
- ISO/IEC 19500-2, Information Technology - Open Distributed Processing - CORBA Specification Part 1: CORBA Interfaces
- ISO/IEC 19500-3, Information Technology - Open Distributed Processing - CORBA Specification Part 3: CORBA Components

ISO/IEC 19500 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology - Open distributed processing - CORBA specification*:

- Part 1: CORBA Interfaces
- Part 2: CORBA Interoperability
- Part 3: CORBA Components

## **ISO/IEC 19500-2:2012(E)**

It is the common core of the CORBA specification. Optional parts of CORBA, such as mappings to particular programming languages, Real-time CORBA extensions, and the minimum CORBA profile for embedded systems are documented in the other specifications that together comprise the complete CORBA specification. Please visit the CORBA download page at [http://www.omg.org/technology/documents/corba\\_spec\\_catalog.htm](http://www.omg.org/technology/documents/corba_spec_catalog.htm) to find the complete CORBA specification set.

Apart from this Foreword, the text of this International Standard is identical with that for the OMG specification for CORBA, v3.1.1, Part 2.

# Introduction

The rapid growth of distributed processing has led to a need for a coordinating framework for this standardization and ITU-T Recommendations X.901-904 | ISO/IEC 10746, the Reference Model of Open Distributed Processing (RM-ODP) provides such a framework. It defines an architecture within which support of distribution, interoperability and portability can be integrated.

RM-ODP Part 2 (ISO/IEC 10746-2) defines the foundational concepts and modeling framework for describing distributed systems. The scopes and objectives of the RM-ODP Part 2 and the UML, while related, are not the same and, in a number of cases, the RM-ODP Part 2 and the UML specification use the same term for concepts which are related but not identical (e.g., interface). Nevertheless, a specification using the Part 2 modeling concepts can be expressed using UML with appropriate extensions (using stereotypes, tags, and constraints).

RM-ODP Part 3 (ISO/IEC 10746-3) specifies a generic architecture of open distributed systems, expressed using the foundational concepts and framework defined in Part 2. Given the relation between UML as a modeling language and Part 3 of the RM-ODP standard, it is easy to show that UML is suitable as a notation for the individual viewpoint specifications defined by the RM-ODP.

This International Standard for CORBA Interfaces is a standard for the technology specification of an ODP system. It defines a technology to provide the infrastructure required to support functional distribution of an ODP system, specifying functions required to manage physical distribution, communications, processing and storage, and the roles of different technology objects in supporting those functions.

## Context of CORBA

The key to understanding the structure of the CORBA architecture is the Reference Model, which consists of the following components:

- **Object Request Broker**, which enables objects to transparently make and receive requests and responses in a distributed environment. It is the foundation for building applications from distributed objects and for interoperability between applications in hetero- and homogeneous environments. The architecture and specifications of the Object Request Broker are described in this manual.
- **Object Services**, a collection of services (interfaces and objects) that support basic functions for using and implementing objects. Services are necessary to construct any distributed application and are always independent of application domains. For example, the Life Cycle Service defines conventions for creating, deleting, copying, and moving objects; it does not dictate how the objects are implemented in an application. Specifications for Object Services are contained in *CORBA services: Common Object Services Specification*.
- **Common Facilities**, a collection of services that many applications may share, but which are not as fundamental as the Object Services. For instance, a system management or electronic mail facility could be classified as a common facility. Information about Common Facilities will be contained in *CORBA facilities: Common Facilities Architecture*.
- **Application Objects**, which are products of a single vendor or in-house development group that controls their interfaces. Application Objects correspond to the traditional notion of applications, so they are not standardized by OMG. Instead, Application Objects constitute the uppermost layer of the Reference Model.

The Object Request Broker, then, is the core of the Reference Model. It is like a telephone exchange, providing the basic mechanism for making and receiving calls. Combined with the Object Services, it ensures meaningful communication between CORBA-compliant applications.

The architecture and specifications described in this standard are aimed at software designers and developers who want to produce applications that comply with OMG specifications for the Object Request Broker (ORB), or this standard (ISO/IEC 19500). The benefit of compliance is, in general, to be able to produce interoperable applications that are based on distributed, interoperating objects. The ORB provides the mechanisms by which objects transparently make requests and receive responses. Hence, the ORB provides interoperability between applications on different machines in heterogeneous distributed environments and seamlessly interconnects multiple object systems.

This Part of this International Standard includes a non-normative annex.

# Information technology - Object Management Group Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA), Interoperability

## 1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 19500 specifies a comprehensive, flexible approach to supporting networks of objects that are distributed across and managed by multiple, heterogeneous CORBA-compliant Object Request Brokers (ORBs). The approach to inter-ORB operation is universal, because elements can be combined in many ways to satisfy a very broad range of needs.

This part of ISO/IEC 19500 covers the specification of:

- ORB interoperability architecture
- Inter-ORB bridge support
- The General Inter-ORB Protocol (GIOP) for object request broker (ORB) interoperability. GIOP can be mapped onto any connection-oriented transport protocol that meets a minimal set of assumptions defined by this standard.
- The Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP), a specific mapping of the GIOP which runs directly over connections that use the Internet Protocol and the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP/IP connections).
- The CORBA Security Attribute Service (SAS) protocol and its use within the CSIV2 architecture to address the requirements of CORBA security for interoperable authentication, delegation, and privileges.

This part of ISO/IEC 19500 provides a widely implemented and used particularization of ITU-T Rec. X.931 | ISO/IEC 14752. Open Distributed Processing - Protocol Support for Computational Interactions. It supports interoperability and location transparency in ODP systems.

## 2 Conformance and Compliance

An ORB is considered to be interoperability-compliant when it meets the following requirements:

- In the CORBA Core part, standard APIs are provided by an ORB to enable the construction of request-level inter-ORB bridges. APIs are defined by the Dynamic Invocation Interface, the Dynamic Skeleton Interface, and by the object identity operations described in the Interface Repository clause of this book.
- An Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP) (explained in the Building Inter-ORB Bridges clause) defines a transfer syntax and message formats (described independently as the General Inter-ORB Protocol), and defines how to transfer messages via TCP/IP connections. The IIOP can be supported natively or via a halfbridge.

Support for additional Environment Specific Inter-ORB Protocols (ESIOPs) and other proprietary protocols is optional in an interoperability-compliant system. However, any implementation that chooses to use the other protocols defined by the CORBA interoperability specifications must adhere to those specifications to be compliant with CORBA interoperability.

Figure 6.2 on page 12 shows examples of interoperable ORB domains that are CORBA-compliant. These compliance points support a range of interoperability solutions. For example, the standard APIs may be used to construct “half bridge” to the IIOP, relying on another “half bridge” to connect to another ORB. The standard APIs also support

construction of “full bridges,” without using the Internet IOP to mediate between separated bridge components. ORBs may also use the Internet IOP internally. In addition, ORBs may use GIOP messages to communicate over other network protocol families (such as Novell or OSI), and provide transport-level bridges to the IIOP.

The GIOP is described separately from the IIOP to allow future specifications to treat it as an independent compliance point.

## **2.1 Unreliable Multicast**

### **Summary of Optional Verses Mandatory Interfaces**

An interface to an MIOP gateway should be considered an optional interface within the MIOP specification.

### **Proposed Compliance Points**

The MIOP specification is a single, optional compliance point within the CORBA Core specification.

### **Changes to Other OMG Specifications**

This part of ISO/IEC 19500 contains an extension to the IOP module.

```
module IOP {  
    const ProfileId    TAG_UIPMC = 3;  
    const ComponentId  TAG_GROUP = 39;  
    const ComponnetId  TAG_GROUP_Iiop = 40  
};
```

## **3 Normative References**

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

- ITU-T Recommendation X.902 (1995) | ISO/IEC 10746-2:1996, Open Distributed Processing - Reference Model: Foundations
- ITU-T Recommendation X.903 (1995) | ISO/IEC 10746-3:1996, Open Distributed Processing - Reference Model: Architecture
- ITU-T Recommendation X.920 (1999) | ISO/IEC 10750:1999, Open Distributed Processing - Interface Definition Language
- ITU-T Recommendation X.931(2000) | ISO/IEC 14752:2000, Open Distributed Processing - Protocol Support for Computational Interactions
- ISO/IEC 8859-1: 1998, Information Technology - 8-bit single byte coded graphic character sets - Part 1: Latin alphabet No. 1
- ISO/IEC 10646-1:1993 Information Technology - Universal Multiple-Octect coded character set (UCS) - Part 1: Architecture and Basic Multilingual Plane

- ISO/IEC 10646-1: 1993/Amd 1:1996 Transformation Format for 16 planes of group 00 (UTF - 16)
- ISO/IEC 10646-1: 1993/Amd 2:1996 UCS Transformation Format 8 (UTF - 8)
- ISO/IEC 19500-1: 2011 Open Distributed Processing - CORBA Specification Part 1: CORBA Interfaces, pas/2011-08-07

### 3.1 Other Specifications

- STD 007 (also, RFC 793), Transmission Control Protocol, J. Postel, Internet Engineering Task Force, Sept. 1981
- STD 005 (also, RFC 791), Internet Protocol, J. Postel, Internet Engineering Task Force, Sept. 1981
- OSF Character and Code Set Registry, OSF DCE FRC 40.1 (Public Version), S. (Martin) O'Donnell, June 1994.
- RPC Runtime Support For I18N Characters - Functional Specification, OSF DCE SIG RFC 41.2, M. Romagna, R. Mackey, November 1994.
- [JAV2I]Object Management Group, "Java to IDL," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/JAV2I/1.4>
- [CORBASEC]Object Management Group, "Security Service," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/SEC/>
- [ASMOTS]Object Management Group, "Additional Structuring Mechanisms for the OTS," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/OTS/>
- [TRANS]Object Management Group, "Transaction Service," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/TRANS/>
- [FIREWALL]Object Management Group, "CORBA Firewall Traversal Specification," available from <http://www.omg.org/members/cgi-bin/doc?ptc/04-04-05.pdf>
- [SCCP] Object Management Group, "CORBA / TC Interworking and SCCP-Inter ORB Protocol (SCCP)," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/SCCP>
- [FTCORBA] Object Management Group, "Fault Tolerant Corba," clause 23 of CORBA 3.0.3, available from <http://www.omg.org/cgi-bin/doc?formal/2004-03-01>
- [RTCORBA] Object Management Group, "Real-Time CORBA, version 1.2," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/RT/>
- [WATM] Object Management Group, "Wireless Access and Telecom Mobility in CORBA, Version 1.2," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/WATM/>
- [DCOMI] Object Management Group, "Interoperability with non-CORBA Systems" clause 20 of CORBA 3.0.3, available from <http://www.omg.org/cgi-bin/doc?formal/2004-03-01>
- [TSAS] Object Management Group, "Telecommunications Service Access and Subscription Specification," available from <http://www.omg.org/spec/TSAS/>
- IETF RFC2119, "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels," S. Bradner, March 1997 (<http://ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119>)