CATENA-X
STANDARD

CX - 0010 BUSINESS PARTNER NUMBER

PLATFORM CAPABILITY: BUSINESS PARTNER DATA MANAGEMENT

Contact: standardisierung@catena-x.net

Note: Please specify the platform capability in the subject line

DISCLAIMER AND LIABILITY

The present document and its contents are provided "AS IS" with no warranties whatsoever.

The information contained in this document is believed to be accurate and complete as of the date of publication, but may contain errors, mistakes or omissions.

The Catena-X Automotive Network e.V. ("Catena-X") makes no express or implied warranty with respect to the present document and its contents, including any warranty of title, ownership, merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose or use. In particular, Catena-X does not make any representation or warranty, and does not assume any liability, that the contents of the document or their use (i) are technically accurate or sufficient, (ii) conform to any law, regulation and/or regulatory requirement, or (iii) do not infringe third-party intellectual property or other rights.

No investigation regarding the essentiality of any patents or other intellectual property rights has been carried out by Catena-X or its members, and Catena-X does not make any representation or warranty, and does not assume any liability, as to the non-infringement of any intellectual property rights which are, or may be, or may become, essential to the use of the present document or its contents.

Catena-X and its members are subject to the IP Regulations of the Association Catena-X Automotive Network e.V. (current version available at https://catena-x.net/fileadmin/user_upload/Vereinsdokumente/Catena-X_IP_Regelwerk_IP_Regulations.pdf) which govern the handling of intellectual property rights in relation to the creation, exploitation and publication of technical documentation, specifications and standards by Catena-X.

Neither Catena-X nor any of its members will be liable for any errors or omissions in this document, or for any damages resulting from use of the document or its contents, or reliance on its accuracy or completeness. In no event shall Catena-X or any of its members be held liable for any indirect, incidental or consequential damages, including loss of profits. Any liability of Catena-X or any of its members, including liability for any intellectual property rights or for non-compliance with laws or regulations, relating to the use of the document or its contents, is expressly disclaimed.

REVISIONS AND UPDATES

The present document may be subject to revision or change of status. Catena-X reserves the right to adopt any changes or updates to the present document as it deems necessary or appropriate. The current version of the present document is publicly available at https://catena-x.net/de/standardisierung/catena-x-einfuehren-umsetzen/standardisierung/standard-library

The present document may be made available in electronic versions and/or in print. The content of any electronic and/or print versions of the present document shall not be copied or modified without the prior written authorization of Catena-X. In case of any existing or perceived difference in contents between any versions and/or in print, the prevailing version of the present document is the one made publicly available by Catena-X in PDF format at https://catena-x.net/de/standardisierung/catena-x-einfuehren-umsetzen/standardisierung/standard-library

If you find any errors in the present document, please send your comments to: standardisierung@catena-x.net

COPYRIGHT AND TRADEMARKS

Any and all rights to the present document or parts of it, including but not limited under copyright law, are owned by Catena-X and its licensors.

The contents of this document shall not be copied, modified, distributed, displayed, made publicly available or otherwise be publicly communicated, in whole or in part, for any purposes, without the prior authorization by Catena-X, and nothing herein confers any right or license to do so.

The present document may include trademarks or trade names which are registered by their owners. Catena-X claims no ownership of these except for any which are indicated as being the property of Catena-X, and conveys no right to use or reproduce any such trademark or trade name contained herein. Mention of any third-party trademarks in the present document does not constitute an endorsement by Catena-X of products, services or organizations associated with those trademarks.

"CATENA-X" is a trademark owned by Catena-X registered for its benefit and the benefit of its members. Using or reproducing this trademark or the trade name of Catena-X is expressly prohibited.

No express or implied license to any intellectual property rights in the present document or parts thereof, or relating to the use of its contents, or mentioned in the present document is granted herein.

The copyright and the foregoing restrictions extend to reproduction in all media.

© Catena-X Automotive Network e.V. All rights reserved.

RELEASE HISTORY

Version	**Release Date**	**Description**
1.0.0	30. November 2022	Initial version by Catena – X Association
1.0.1	6. March 2023	Addendum for Conformity Assessment added

Contents

Introduction and Overview 4
1. Initial Situation 4
2. Concepts and specifications 5
2.1. Definition and Structure of BPN – Legal entity, site and address 5
2.2. BPN ID Syntax & Structure 5
3. Content of a BPN Master record 6
3.1. BPN Contents 6
3.2. Language versions for name and address 7
3.3. Out of scope entites and information 7
3.4. Relations including examples 8
4. Lifecycle management 8
3.1. Assignment of the BPN for a legal entity 8
3.2. Assignment of the BPN for site 9
3.3. Assignment of the BPN for an address 9
3.4. Lifecycle of a BPN 9

Figure 1: example representation of the example above based on iec/iso 62264 (ISA-95), in order to align the bpn-l/s/a with industry standards. 8

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

It is not only with the founding of various industry networks (e.g. Catena-X) that the requirements increase to establish data standards for the entire automotive value chain and to promote the industry-wide, international data exchange. For the networking of OEMs, suppliers, customers and industrial partners, it is essential to define and introduce a cross-industry standard for identifying business partners in order to map the entire supply chain in a sustainable manner.

This BPN is an important basis for all further processes within the supply chain to fulfill e.g. „Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations for the Prevention of Human Rights Violations in Supply Chains“ (“ Lieferkettensorgfaltspflichtengesetzes – LkSG”) and other legal and country specific requirements. It is intended as a reference for globally unique identification of Business Partners.

The following represents the technical documentation for the Business Partner Number in the Platform Capability Business Partner Data Management. First, the initial situation of Business Partner Identification is being layed out pointing out the current difficulty for a coherent identification. Then, the dependencies between Business Partner Number and other objects are layed out. The documentation then dives into the structure and creation of a Business Partner Number with examples. The context of the Business Partner Number is layed out, followed by its lifecycle.

1. INITIAL SITUATION

Business Partners are currently identified with individually defined supplier and/or customer numbers in each individual company in the automotive supply chain. A consistent identification of Business Partners in a supply chain for e.g. parts traceability, CO2 footprint, sustainability is therefore only possible with a big effort.

The aim of BPDM with its BPN is to define a set of rules for a unique ID for cross-company communication and identification of Business Partners. The ID should be used as an international, cross-industry standard.

A special requirement within the process of Business Partner identification is the mapping of changes in the company structures (Split Offs, Mergers, Joint Ventures) considering local and legal requirements to differentiate between Business Partner legal enties, sites and addresses as well as the question who assigns the BPN.

The concept of the BPN is trying to consider the various requirements of different functional areas, such as accounting, logistics, purchasing, legal and sales.

2. CONCEPTS AND SPECIFICATIONS

2.1. Definition and Structure of BPN – Legal entity, site and address

Legal Entity:
A legal entity is a juristic person or group which has legal rights and duties related to contracts, agreements, obligations etc. The term applies to any kind of organization which was founded under the particular set of law governing the country.

Site:
A site is a delimited geographical area where a legal entity does business (geographical address with geo coordinates). Providing a primary physical address for a site is mandatory. It is possible to specify further physical addresses for this location. P.O. box details are only possible in addition to the physical address. A site has a 1:n relation to addresses, means at least one address is necessary and multiple addresses are possible.

Address:
An address is a collection of information used to give the location of a building, apartment, or other structure or a plot of land, generally using political boundaries and street names as references, along with other identifiers such as organization name or plant. Addresses may contain also special codes, such as a postal code or geocodes, to make identification easier and aid in the routing of deliveries.

2.2. BPN ID SYNTAX & STRUCTURE

The BPN is a unique, unchangeable identifier for Business Partners / company locations from foundation to closure, regardless of the different business relationships / structures between or within the Business Partners or company locations.

Prefix	Classification	Identifyer	Check Digit
3-digit	1-digit	10-digit	2-digit
Issuing Agency Code according to ISO/IEC 15459 e.g. BPN	L = Legal Entity S = Site A = Address	alphanumerical	2-digit verification algorithm according to ISO 7064 MOD 1271-36

The BPN is represented in the following defined structure:.

Exemplary BPN:	**BPNL123456789OZZ**

BPN: is used here as a placeholder for the Issuing Agency according to IDO/IEC 15459.
L: identifies the legal entity of the business partner
ZZ: is the individual check digit, which is formed according to ISO 7064.

Further information:
The following input or reading aid is recommended for human readable representation of the BPN:
BPNL 1234 5678 90ZZ
For machine-readable representation, the use of a barcode or QR code can be assigned.

3. CONTENT OF A BPN MASTER RECORD

3.1. BPN CONTENTS

BPNL (Business Partner Number Legal Entity) represents the legal entity of an organization (e.g. enterprise, university, association, …) and contains its legal name (incl. legal form, if registered), registered address and tax number. The registered address is the official, legal correspondence address which has to be supplied to governmental and tax authorities and is the address which is used in any legal or court documents.

BPNL is on corporate level and is unique for this legal entity.

Example: Beispiel AG | Beispiel Platz 1 | 70435 Suttgart | Germany

To be provided attributes to other use cases in Catena-X:

- BPNL
- Name (name of legal entity incl. legal form, if registered)
- Address data
- Tax identifier

BPNL contains the complete data set (name and address).

BPNS (Business Partner Number Site) represents a site which can be a production plant. A site can also be e.g. an office or a warehouse. An information related to a site is e.g. needed for reporting issues (How many sites does e.g. Beispiel AG have?), status of operation (out of operations due to environmental disaster), for certificates on site level (e.g. environment certificates) or for internal regulations on site level, (e.g. security topics, Corona rules,...). Several addresses (= BPNA with different streets and different gates) can belong to one site. A BPNS should be always linked to one BPNL via relationship "belongs to legal entity".

To build up the complex site structure of a company the sharing members can define and share the structure of their own sites separately.

It must still be clarified how the process will be for sharing members who do not have a detailed list of their site structure or for shared Business Partners where the structure is not known.

The usage of a default (Plant and corresponding city, e.g. Plant Zuffenhausen) contains a high quality risk and doesn't have an added value for the other use cases.

Example: Beispiel AG | Plant Beispiel| 70435 S-Zuffenhausen, Germany

To be provided attributes to other use cases in Catena-X:

- BPNS
- Relation to BPNL
- Name (name of legal entity incl. legal form, if registered)
- Site and location

BPNS contains the name of the Business Partner, the site and the city.

BPNA (Business Partner Number Address) contains the legal name (incl. legal form, if registered) and additional organization information about site, e.g. Plant xxx, Branch office yyy of an organization with its corresponding, most commonly physical, address. A BPNA is always linked to a BPNL via relationship "belongs to legal entity" and should be linked to a BPNS via relationship "belongs to site".The BPNA is on operational level (e.g. shipping or pick-up address).

Examples:

- Beispiel AG | Plant 1 | Building 10 | Beispiel Platz 1 | 70435 Suttgart | Germany
- Beispiel AG | Plant 4 | Beispiel 5 | 70435 Stuttgart | Germany
- Beispiel AG | Gate 2 | Beispielstraße 911 | 71287 Weissach | Germany

To be provided attributes to other use cases in Catena-X:

- BPNA
- Relation to BPNL (and BPNS)
- Name (name of legal entity incl. legal form, if registered)
- Name (additional organisation information, e.g. site)
- Address data

BPNA contains the complete data set (name and address).

3.2. LANGUAGE VERSIONS FOR NAME AND ADDRESS

Standard version: Only Latin (1 - 9) character sets are allowed. Name and address data are stored in local language or in English if the local language is not using Latin (1 - 9) character sets.

International version: Only for non-Latin (1 - 9) character sets for defined languages. Name and address data are always stored in local language in local character sets in case of country specific requirements.

The following languages are considered as valid international versions (extract): Chinese, Chinese trad., Cyrillic, Farsi, Greek, Hangul, Hebrew. Indonesian, Kanji, Thai, Vietnamese.
Internal unloading points (logistic)
Classification of the location (e.g. production, delivery, development location)
Mapping of a history with predecessors and successors

3.3. OUT OF SCOPE ENTITES AND INFORMATION

The following entities or information are currently out of scope for an identification or mapping with the BPN identified or mapped with the BPN:

- Natural persons (e.g. employees) who act for a legal entity and not as their own Business Partner.
- Business relationships
- C/o addresses

- Internal unloading points (logistically)
- Classification of the location (e.g. production, delivery, development location)
- Mapping of a history with predecessors and successors

3.4. RELATIONS INCLUDING EXAMPLES

There is a relation between Legal Entity (L), Sites (S), and Addresses (A) (which can be interpreted as an hierarchy L => S => A; 1:n:m). Each Address has only one parent Site, each Site has only one parent Legal Entity. The relation shall be in general: For one legal entity we have at least 1 SITE with at least one BPN-A. Every BPN-A shall have a relation to one site. There is no BPN-A linked directly to BPN-L.

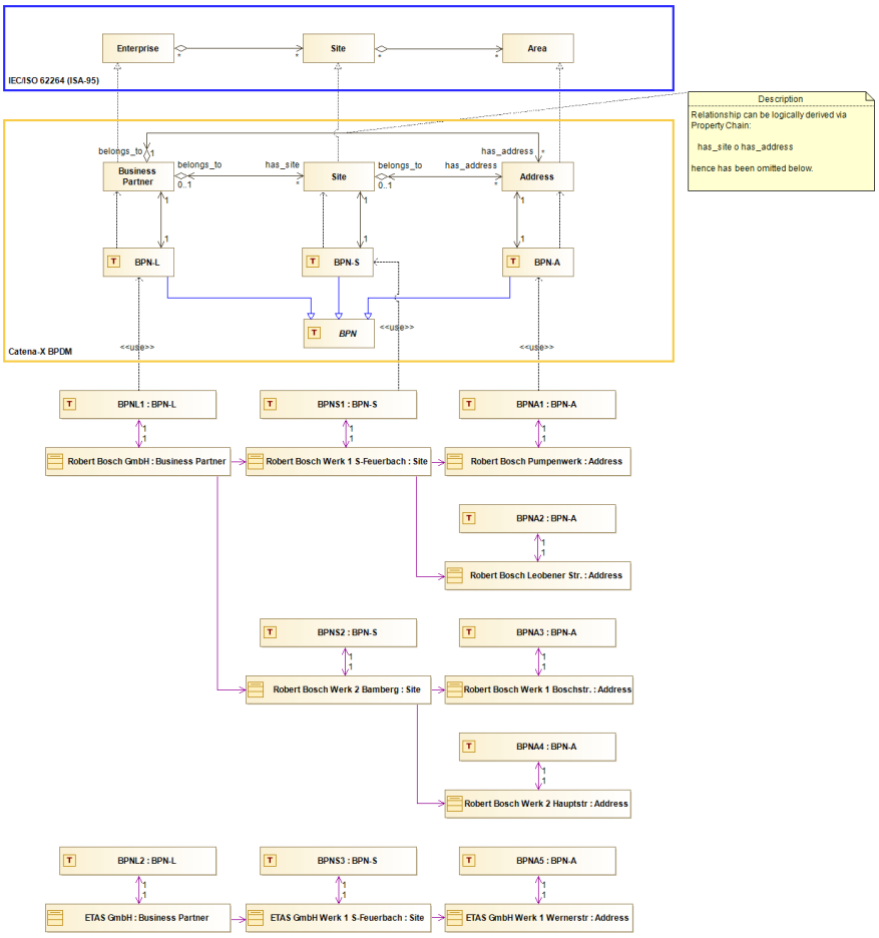

FIGURE 1: example representation of the example above based on iec/iso 62264 (ISA-95), in order to align the bpn-l/s/a with industry standards.

4. LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

3.1. ASSIGNMENT OF THE BPN FOR A LEGAL ENTITY

The country specific law is dominant in defining a legal entity which will get an own BPN assigned.

Examples:

- New VAT ID number in the EU area, for example when changing the legal form in the company name (e.g. "Schmidt GmbH" to "Schmidt AG").
- New tax identification in non-EU countries.

At least one additional location ID must be assigned for each legal entity.

3.2. ASSIGNMENT OF THE BPN FOR SITE

In addition to a BPN for the legal entity, the Business Partner site receive an own BPN. The site is linked to the geo coordinates or the mailbox of the primary address of the Business Partners location (latitude, longitude, altitude).

3.3. ASSIGNMENT OF THE BPN FOR AN ADDRESS

Each address gets its own BPN. A location must always have at least one address with a corresponding BPN. Further additional addresses are possible. One address can be assigned to several sites.

3.4. LIFECYCLE OF A BPN

The BPNs of a legal entity (L), a site (S), and an address (A) have an own life cycle, depending on the respective status of the legal entity, the site or the address in the real world.

Legal entity status:

- in establishing
- active
- bankrupt
- liquidated

Status of a location:

- active
- passive (production interrupted, shut down, renovation, officially closed, etc.)

Status of an address:

- existent
- not existent

ADDENDUM FOR CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

DISCLAIMER

The following pages are not part of the standard documentation.

CATENA-X

ADDENDUM FOR CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

CX – 0010 BUSINESS PARTNER NUMBER

PLATFORM CAPABILITY: BUSINESS PARTNER DATA MANAGEMENT

Contact: standardisierung@catena-x.net

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About this Document & Motivation 1
Disclaimer & Liability 2
Revisions & Update 2
Copyright & Trademarks 3
Abstract 4
1 Introduction 5
1.1 Audience & Scope 5
1.2 Context 5
1.3 Conformance 6
1.4 Proof of conformity 6
1.5 EXAMPLES 6
1.6 Terminology 7
2 Business partner number [NORMATIVE] 9
2.1 BPN 9
2.2 BPNL 9
2.3 BPNS 9
2.4 BPNA 9
2.5 LANGUAGE VERSION FOR NAME AND ADDRESS 10
2.6 LIFECYCLE 10
3 References 12
3.1 Normative References 12
3.2 Non-Normative References 12
3.3 Reference Implementations 12

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT & MOTIVATION

The **standards of the Catena-X data ecosystem** define how the exchange of data and information in our network works. They are the basis for ensuring that the technologies, components, and processes used are developed and operated according to uniform rules.

The addendum for conformity assessment clarifies the requirements and scope for each standard. It contains conformity assessment criteria (CAC) that specify how a participant can receive a certificate for the correct application of the standard.

DISCLAIMER & LIABILITY

The present document and its contents are provided “AS-IS” with no warranties whatsoever.

The information contained in this document is believed to be accurate and complete as of the date of publication, but may contain errors, mistakes or omissions.

The Catena-X Automotive Network e.V. (“Catena-X”) makes no express or implied warranty with respect to the present document and its contents, including any warranty of title, ownership, merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose or use. In particular, Catena-X does not make any representation or warranty, and does not assume any liability, that the contents of the document or their use (i) are technically accurate or sufficient, (ii) conform to any law, regulation and/or regulatory requirement, or (iii) do not infringe third-party intellectual property or other rights.

No investigation regarding the essentiality of any patents or other intellectual property rights has been carried out by Catena-X or its members, and Catena-X does not make any representation or warranty, and does not assume any liability, as to the non-infringement of any intellectual property rights which are, or may be, or may become, essential to the use of the present document or its contents.

Catena-X and its members are subject to the IP Regulations of the Association Catena-X Automotive Network e.V. which govern the handling of intellectual property rights in relation to the creation, exploitation and publication of technical documentation, specifications, and standards by Catena-X.[1]

Neither Catena-X nor any of its members will be liable for any errors or omissions in this document, or for any damages resulting from use of the document or its contents, or reliance on its accuracy or completeness. In no event shall Catena-X or any of its members be held liable for any indirect, incidental or consequential damages, including loss of profits. Any liability of Catena-X or any of its members, including liability for any intellectual property rights or for non-compliance with laws or regulations, relating to the use of the document or its contents, is expressly disclaimed.

REVISIONS & UPDATE

The present document may be subject to revision or change of status. Catena-X reserves the right to adopt any changes or updates to the present document as it deems necessary or appropriate.[2]

The present document may be made available in electronic versions and/or in print. The content of any electronic and/or print versions of the present document shall not be copied or modified without the prior written authorization of Catena-X. In case of any existing or perceived difference in contents between any versions and/or in print, the prevailing version of the present document is the one made publicly available by Catena-X in PDF format. [1]

[1] https://catena-x.net/fileadmin/user_upload/Vereinsdokumente/Catena-X_IP_Regelwerk_IP_Regulations.pdf
[2] https://catena-x.net/de/standard-library

If you find any errors in the present document, please send your comments to: standardisierung@catena-x.net

COPYRIGHT & TRADEMARKS

Any and all rights to the present document or parts of it, including but not limited under copyright law, are owned by Catena-X and its licensors.

The contents of this document shall not be copied, modified, distributed, displayed, made publicly available or otherwise be publicly communicated, in whole or in part, for any purposes, without the prior authorization by Catena-X, and nothing herein confers any right or license to do so.

The present document may include trademarks or trade names which are registered by their owners. Catena-X claims no ownership of these except for any which are indicated as being the property of Catena-X, and conveys no right to use or reproduce any such trademark or trade name contained herein. Mention of any third-party trademarks in the present document does not constitute an endorsement by Catena-X of products, services or organizations associated with those trademarks.

“CATENA-X” is a trademark owned by Catena-X registered for its benefit and the benefit of its members. Using or reproducing this trademark or the trade name of Catena-X is expressly prohibited.
No express or implied license to any intellectual property rights in the present document or parts thereof, or relating to the use of its contents, or mentioned in the present document is granted herein.
The copyright and the foregoing restrictions extend to reproduction in all media.
© Catena-X Automotive Network e.V. All rights reserved.

ABSTRACT

The Business Partner Number (BPN) is a unique identifier that is assigned to each business partner. The following represents the technical documentation for the Business Partner Number in the Platform Capability Business Partner Data Management. This standard documentation defines the structure and creation of a Business Partner Number.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 AUDIENCE & SCOPE

This section is non-normative

This standard is relevant for the following audience:

- Core Service Provider
- Data Provider / Consumer
- Business Application Provider
- Onboarding Service Provider

This document is focusing on the business partner number that is part of the business partner data management (BPDM) use case described on the BPDM Catena-X Website. It is the one unique identifier for business partners in the network.

It is in scope and relevant for app provider and service provider who want to consume and use cleaned, high-quality business partner master data sets, including the business partner number (BPN).

Also relevant for and core service provider that need to maintain the issuing agency to get an understanding on the syntax of the number, the versions, and relations. In addition to that the lifecycle of a number is important.

It has a high relevance for data provider and consumer which are called sharing member. To provide their data, get the data back from the golden record process with a BPN and to improve the quality of business partner data.

Not in scope is the business partner pool API where you can get the BPN for business partner master data set – to find in the standard library of Catena-X: https://catena-x.net/de/standard-library

Not in scope is the mechanism on how the business partner number is issued. There is a separate standard for this: Issuing Agency – to find in the standard library of Catena-X: https://catena-x.net/de/standard-library

1.2 CONTEXT

This section is non-normative

It is not only with the founding of various industry networks (e.g. Catena-X) that the requirements increase to establish data standards for the entire automotive value chain and to promote the industry-wide, international data exchange. For the networking of OEMs, suppliers, customers and industrial partners, it is essential to define and introduce a cross-industry standard for identifying business partners in order to map the entire supply chainin a sustainable manner.

This BPN is an important basis for all further processes within the supply chain to fulfill e.g. „Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations for the Prevention of Human Rights Violations in Supply Chains“ (“Lieferkettensorgfaltspflichtengesetzes – LkSG”) and other legal and country specific requirements. Itis intended as a reference for globally unique identification of Business Partners.

Business Partners are currently identified with individually defined supplier and/or customer numbers in each individual company in the automotive supply chain. A consistent identification of Business Partners in a supply chain for e.g. parts traceability, CO2 footprint, sustainability is therefore only possible with a big effort. The aim of BPDM with its BPN is to define a set of rules for a unique ID for cross-company communication and identification of Business Partners. The ID should be used as an international, cross-industry standard. A special requirement within the process of Business Partner identification is the mapping of changes in the company structures (Split Offs, Mergers, Joint Ventures) considering local and legal requirements to differentiate between Business Partner legal entities, sites and addresses as well as the question who assigns the BPN. The concept of the BPN is trying to consider the various requirements of different functional areas, such as accounting, logistics, purchasing, legal and sales.

1.3 CONFORMANCE

As well as sections marked as non-normative, all authoring guidelines, diagrams, examples, and notes in this specification are non-normative. Everything else in this specification is normative.

The key words MAY, MUST, MUST NOT, OPTIONAL, RECOMMENDED, REQUIRED, SHOULD and SHOULD NOT in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [RFC2119] [RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

1.4 PROOF OF CONFORMITY

This section is non-normative

All participants and their solutions will need to proof, that they are conform with the Catena-X standards. To validate that the standards are applied correctly, Catena-X employs Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs).

To proof conformity with this standard providing a stated and signed document that the syntax of the number is established is needed.

1.5 EXAMPLES

Exemplary BPN: **BPNL123456789OZZ**

BPN: is used here as a placeholder for the Issuing Agency according to IDO/IEC 15459.

L: identifies the legal entity of the business partner

ZZ: is the individual check digit, which is formed according to ISO 7064.

1.6 TERMINOLOGY

This section is non-normative

BPDM:
Business Partner Data Management is the domain and use case inside Catena-X. This domain is responsible for the logic of the business partner number, the creation of the number, the sharing process of business partner data, the technological realization and other services that are built up on this components.

Legal Entity:
A legal entity is a juristic person or group which has legal rights and duties related to contracts, agreements, obligations etc. The term applies to any kind of organization which was founded under the particular set of law governing the country.

Site:
A site is a delimited geographical area where a legal entity does business (geographical address with geo coordinates). Providing a primary physical address for a site is mandatory. It is possible to specify further physical addresses for this location. P.O. box details are only possible in addition to the physical address. A site has a 1:n relation to addresses, means at least one address is necessary and multiple addresses are possible.

Address:
An address is a collection of information used to give the location of a building, apartment, or other structure or a plot of land, generally using political boundaries and street names as references, along with other identifiers such as organization name or plant. Addresses may contain also special codes, such as a postal code or geocodes, to make identification easier and aid in the routing of deliveries.

BPN: Business partner number is the unique identifier for companys.

BPNL (Business Partner Number Legal Entity) represents the legal entity of an organization (e.g. enterprise, university, association, …) and contains its legal name (incl. legal form, if registered), registered address and tax number. The registered address is the official, legal correspondence address which has to be supplied to governmental and tax authorities and is the address which is used in any legal or court documents.

BPNS (Business Partner Number Site) represents a site which can be a production plant. A site can also be e.g. an office or a warehouse. An information related to a site is e.g. needed for reporting issues (How many sites does e.g. Beispiel AG have?), status of operation (out of operations due to environmental disaster), for certificates on site level (e.g. environment certificates) or for internal regulations on site level, (e.g. security topics, Corona rules,...). Site structure and naming should be delivered by the respective sharing member.

BPNA (Business Partner Number Address) Is the business partner number for the address of a site or a legal entity. And contains the legal name (incl. legal form, if registered) and

additional organization information about site, e.g. Plant xxx, Branch office yyy of an organization with its corresponding, most commonly physical, address.

Additional terminology used in this standard can be looked up in the glossary on the association homepage.

2 BUSINESS PARTNER NUMBER [NORMATIVE]

2.1 BPN

The BPN is a unique, unchangeable identifier for Business Partners / company locations from foundation to closure, regardless of the different business relationships / structures between or within the Business Partners or company locations and MUST follow the defined syntax and structure:

Prefix	Classification	Identifier	Check Digit
3-digit	1-digit	10-digit	2-digit
Issuing Agency Code according to ISO/IEC 15459 e.g. BPN	L = Legal Entity S = Site A = Address	alphanumerical	2-digit verification algorithm according to ISO 7064 MOD 1271-36

Further information:
The following input or reading aid SHOULD be used for human readable representation of the BPN: BPNL 1234 5678 90ZZ
For machine-readable representation, the use of a barcode or QR code SHOULD be assigned.

2.2 BPNL

BPNL is on corporate level and MUST be unique for this legal entity.

Example: Beispiel AG | Beispiel Platz 1 | 70435 Suttgart | Germany

MUST be provided attributes from a BPNL:

- BPNL
- Name (name of legal entity incl. legal form, if registered)
- Address data
- Tax identifier (OPTIONAL)

2.3 BPNS

BPNS MUST always be linked to one BPNL via relationship "belongs to legal entity".

BPNS can OPTIONAL be linked to several addresses (BPNA) but MUST have at least one.

MUST be provided attributes from a BPNS (if it exists):

- BPNS
- Relation to BPNL
- Name (name of site)
- Related BPNAs

Name of site MUST contain the name of the Business Partner, the site and the city.

2.4 BPNA

For each BPNL there MUST be at least one BPNA.

Additional BPNAs are OPTIONAL but a BPNA MUST be linked to a BPNL via relationship "belongs to legal entity" and SHOULD be linked to a BPNS via relationship "belongs to site".

In addition it MUST provide the following attributes:

- BPNA
- Relation to BPNL (and OPTIONAL to BPNS)
- Name (name of legal entity incl. legal form, if registered)
- Name (additional organisation information, e.g. site)
- Address data

2.5 LANGUAGE VERSION FOR NAME AND ADDRESS

The following language versions MUST be followed:

Standard version: Only Latin (1 - 9) character sets are allowed. Name and address data are stored in local language or in English if the local language is not using Latin (1 - 9) character sets.

International version: Only for non-Latin (1 - 9) character sets for defined languages. Name and address data are always stored in local language in local character sets in case of country specific requirements.

The following languages are considered as valid international versions (extract): Chinese, Chinese trad., Cyrillic, Farsi, Greek, Hangul, Hebrew. Indonesian, Kanji, Thai, Vietnamese. Internal unloading points (logistic), Classification of the location (e.g. production, delivery, development location), Mapping of a history with predecessors and successors.

2.6 LIFECYCLE

The BPNs of a legal entity (L), a site (S), and an address (A) have an own life cycle, depending on the respective status of the legal entity, the site or the address in the real world.

They MUST follow the status definitions:

Legal entity status:

- in establishing
- active
- bankrupt
- liquidated

Status of a location:

- active
- passive (production interrupted, shut down, renovation, officially closed, etc.)

Status of an address:

- existent
- not existent

3 REFERENCES

3.1 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

Pool API specification

3.2 NON-NORMATIVE REFERENCES

This section is non-normative

BPDM Catena-X Website
API setup (profiles)

3.3 REFERENCE IMPLEMENTATIONS

This section is non-normative

Business Partner Pool API