Comments on WG10 N318
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Introduction
3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence: Delete "An", capitalize Application. Delete the word "informative" before information, add "the" before "application modules that are…"

3rd paragraph: Add a note following this paragraph or another sentence that states the relationship of this document to "Guidelines for the development and approval of STEP application protocols." The sentence should be to the effect that this document does not supersede that document, but may be used by <whom> to develop modular APs on a pilot basis (or whatever the case is).

4th paragraph: Replace "provides" with "illustrates", change "and" to "an", change "compared" to "in contrast", and consider changing the word "current" to something else. (Isn't this also a "current" architecture? Perhaps "initial"?)

Figure 1: This figure uses a ton of acronyms that are not spelled out anywhere in the document. Ideally, they should be spelled out before they are used. They should also be spelled out in clause 3.

Note: The note says its an adaptation, but does not state for what purpose or for what audience. Perhaps the note I suggested earlier could be combined with this note?

Scope
1st paragraph: Delete SC4 before standing document. I also prefer the phrase "application protocols that use application modules"—its more definitive than "using". It is phrased that way in some places but not most.

2nd paragraph: Insert "the" before "scope".

Last bullet: How about "specification of presentation requirements for documenting ISO 10303 application protocols. This leads to the larger issue… Where are the presentation requirements for modular APs specified? Ideally, the requirements should be written in a form that could be easily spliced into the SD. The requirements could be published as an annex to this document or as a separate document. They should be published by this project because there are no other resources to do so.

Normative references
The normative references should be provided in two sets—standards first and other documents second. The wording for the two paragraphs is similar:

"The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this standing document. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this standing document are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

 <list standards>

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this standing document. At the time of adoption, the revisions of the documents indicated were valid. All documents are subject to revision, and users of this standing document are encouraged to investigate the possiblity of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below.

Definitions

This document needs to reference all terms that are used where there is no applicable definition in the OED. That means that all the STEP jargon from part 1 needs to be added to this clause. Check AP guidelines for a list that's probably more than is needed for this document.

Create separate subclauses for terms defined in ISO 10303-1, and terms defined locally.

Add a subclause for acronyms.

Rename clause 3 "Terms, definitions and abbreviations" and document it as for a standard (correcting boilerplate text).

The policy adopted for standing document definition clauses is to repeat the text of the definition from the source document. This was a consensus decision requested by standing document users.

Application protocol content

1st paragraph, 1st sentence: replace "using" with "that uses".

1st paragraph, 2nd sentence: replace "given" with "shown".

4.1 The Introduction

Allows for a "planning model". So does 4.5 The information requirements. Is there any difference between the planning models that are allowed in these two places in the AP? It would be more clear to describe the concept once if it is one concept and simply reference it from the second spot. Or, if they are different, the two subclauses should spell out the distinctions.

3rd sentence: Suggest rewrite to: "If present, this model shall have rectangles representing the concepts with lines connecting related concepts." Or something similar.

4.3 The normative references

2nd sentence should be split into two, and should clarify what is meant. I think you mean to say "Normative references may be to either dated or undated standards as appropriate for the AP. The minimal required set of normative references are as follows:" But I'm not sure. Clarify it to state whatever is intended.

4.4 The definitions and abbreviations

The content of the two paragraphs is confused. How about one that talks about what kind of things get defined and one that talks about the necessary structure of the clause. Right now both paragraphs have sentences that talk about concepts from the Info requirements or ARM that could be combined, or at least discussed in the same paragraph (the ones beginning "This clause may include concepts that are…" and "Should the AP require industry specific…" (industry-specific should be hyphenated)).

4.5 The information requirements

1st paragraph, next-to-last sentence: that should be used to introduce essential clauses (in general). Replace which with that in this sentence, and also in the 1st sentence of the 2nd paragraph. Check the entire document for correct usage of which vs. that.

2nd paragraph: See comment under 4.1 regarding planning models.

2nd paragraph, 4th sentence: If this sentence remains, split into two. Add period following AP. Delete "and" and replace with "It".

4.5.1 The data specification

1st sentence: Says that "clause 4.1 shall specify the application module that…" How does it do that? Clearly, the whole AM is not specified within the AP, so this clause should clarify how the identification of that module is made and documented within the AP. This paragraph says so little and the example is so vague that without an example AP an AP developer would have little idea what to put into this clause.

Example: Say ISO 10303-203 and ISO 10303-214 instead of AP203 and AP214.

Figure 3/Example. The acronym CR for common resource is introduced in this figure. It should be provided parenthetically in the example and provided in the list of acronyms in this document (assuming we want to introduce that acronym into our collection of STEP jargon…)

Figure 3: Add a key or explanatory text to make this figure more clear.

4.5.2 The industry specific terminology
Again, this doesn't provide a lot of guidance on what exactly is expected, how to assess whether what given is complete, etc.

The majority of this paragraph talks about the ARM, that is not defined in this clause. This confused me for a few minutes, till I got to the very end where it says that the ARM goes in an annex. This should be made clear up front, and the emphasis of this paragraph should be on describing the requirements for the terminology, with a statement that the terminology is used in the informative ARM that may appear in an annex.

4.7 The annexes and bibliography
Annex A, 1st paragraph: Don't capitalize annex when it appears in text (in general).

Annexes in general: Where there is guidance in the AP guidelines for development and documentation of the content of an annex that is unchanged by the architecture, consider referring to that portion of the guidelines, or providing more details from those guidelines in this document so this document will be more useful to a STEP novice creating one of these modular APs.