



## **IMS Global Learning Consortium Announces Pilot Project Exploring Creative Commons Licensing of Interoperability Specifications**

*Leading Educational and Learning Technology Standards Consortium Will Pilot New Approach to Supporting Interoperability and Innovation*

**Lake Mary, FL, USA, 3 March 2008.** Today the IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS GLC) announced plans to initiate a pilot project in the distribution of interoperability specifications under a form of Creative Commons license. The announcement comes after development of an initial concept paper that was recently reviewed by the IMS GLC Board of Directors leading to approval of the pilot project.

Historically, specifications and standards consortia have grappled with the need to be good stewards of the investments made by consortium members and achieving control toward interoperability in practice, while also engendering market innovation. IMS GLC has conceptualized a novel approach that may be applicable to many standards organizations. Today, almost all such organizations publish their specifications under standard copyright.

“We are pleased to be breaking new ground in achieving wider use of and innovation from open standards while still stepping up to achieving interoperability in practice,” said Rob Abel, CEO of IMS Global Learning. “IMS Global has been working for two years now to put in place some key processes, such as open source tools for application profiling and testing, that will enable this new approach.”

“The New Zealand Ministry of Education is pleased to be involved with IMS Global in this exciting innovation and we look forward to exploring new ways of supporting involvement in the development of standards and specifications that enable the contributions of participating partners to be recognized,” commented Murray Leach, Senior Manager, New Zealand Ministry of Education.

The pilot project is to be supported by participants from IMS member organizations. The pilot will refine the proposed approach and test it on an initial set of IMS GLC standards and projects in order to determine effectiveness.

IMS Global is supported by over 100 organizations, including leading educational product suppliers and publishers, leading institutions of learning, and leading government organizations. Current Contributing Members of IMS GLC are listed at <http://www.imsglobal.org/members.html>.

### **About IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS GLC)**

IMS Global Learning is a global, nonprofit, member organization that strives to enable the growth and impact of learning technology in the education and corporate learning sectors worldwide. IMS GLC members provide leadership in shaping and growing the learning industry through community development of standards, promotion of innovation, and research into adoption practices. For more information, including the world's most comprehensive set of learning technology interoperability standards, information on the annual Learning Impact conference and awards program, and free community resources for learning technology leaders, visit [www.imsglobal.org](http://www.imsglobal.org).