

Style Guide for Documentation of the CASE Ontology, Version 1.0

CASE Community Guidance Document

14 January 2020

Style Guide for Documentation of the CASE Ontology

- A CASE Community Guidance Document
- Specifies annotations to be included in the CASE Ontology
 - Annotations are included with the encoding (“self-documenting ontology”)
 - Annotations are available to users and applications (but not used by reasoning engines)
 - Style Guide specifies which (W3C or other standard) annotation properties to use
- Summary of Ontology Committee actions
 - Reviewed Oct. – Nov. 2019 (40-day review period)
 - Atlassian issue ONT-7
 - Comments and tracked edits on the Google Docs copy
 - Adjudicated in Dec. 2019 by OC Chair
 - Goes into effect today (14 Jan. 2020)
- “In effect” means
 - Applies to new CASE files (see ONT-139)
 - Applies to CASE concepts proposed in change requests (*e.g.*, CPs/CDRs for v0.2)

CASE Style Guide Applicability

- There is a need to standardize and improve CASE documentation.
 - Agreement on the required types of documentation
 - Agreement on standard annotation properties to use for each type
 - Agreement on the style to be followed in the annotation content
 - Covers designations (IRIs, names, labels), definitions, and descriptions
 - Applies for all CASE change requests (CPs/CDRs)
- Ontologies imported by CASE (including UCO) may have different documentation styles.
- NOTE: Automated generation of documentation (*e.g.*, OWL Docs) is based on what is in the ontology (including both annotations and structural assertions).

Structure of the *Style Guide*

- (Sect. 1-3) Introductory material (Intro, Terms, References)
- (Sect. 4) IRI Style for the CASE Ontology and Ontology Components
- (Sect. 5) Documentation of the CASE Ontology (*general*)
- (Sect. 6) Annotations for the Ontology and Ontology Components (*types of annotations to be used*)
- (Sect. 7) Documentation Guidance by Type of Annotation (*style guidance per type*)
- (Sect. 8) Encodings for Annotations (*assigns annotation properties from established standards to represent the types of documentation*)
- (Annex B) (Non-OWL) Annotation Properties (*includes some additional documentation that could be added*)

Proposed Annotation Properties for the Ontology (owl:Ontology)

Documentation Type	Annotation Property	Value Type	Notes
Ontology IRI*	owl:ontologyIRI	IRI	Unique character sequence used as identifier of the ontology
Title*	dct:title	String with language tag	[UCO uses rdfs:label]
Abbreviation	skos:altLabel	String with language tag	
Comment*	rdfs:comment	String with language tag	[also used by UCO]
Version IRI	owl:versionIRI	IRI	[version style deferred]
Version Information*	owl:versionInfo	String	[also used by UCO]
Prior Version	owl:priorVersion	IRI	
Backward Compatibility	owl:backwardCompatibleWith	IRI	
Incompatible With	owl:incompatibleWith	IRI	

*Mandatory

Proposed Annotation Properties for the Ontology Components (Class, Property)

Documentation Type	Annotation Property	Value Type	Notes
Concept IRI*	rdf:about	IRI	Unique character sequence used as identifier of the ontology component
Label*	rdfs:label	Camel-cased string equivalent to terminal segment of concept IRI	[also used by UCO]
Name*	skos:prefLabel	String with language tag	[not in UCO]
Alternate Name	skos:altLabel	String with language tag	("Alias") Synonyms, abbreviation, other languages
Definition*	skos:definition	String with language tag	[UCO uses rdfs:comment & does not distinguish from Description]
Description	dct:description	String with language tag	[UCO uses rdfs:comment & does not distinguish from Definition]
Example	skos:example	Resource (String or IRI)	Text or linked illustration of usage

*Mandatory

Annex B lists more annotation properties available from W3C or Dublin Core standards (e.g., scopeNote, source).