Change ID: 5.1-06

Contact address model review

Summary

It is proposed to allow multiple occurrences of the PostalAddress, OnlineContact and TelephoneContact for each ContactInformation and to eliminate the inheritance between these classes.

Background

Currently, the ContactInformation class is specialised into postal address, on-line contact and telephone/telefax. The ContactInformation class has attributes that describe the name, title and purpose of the contact point.

Rationale for the change

Frequently, a postal address, several on-line contact types and several phone numbers are associated with the same point of contact. The model needs to be modified in order to better describe this real-world situation. This can be achieved by replacing the inheritance between ContactInformation and PostalAddress/OnlineContact/ TelephoneContact with simple associations.

The data type of the "linkage" attribute of the OnlineContact is of type TextNameType , which is limited to 60 characters. But this not a correct type because it is not a name. It is also insufficient for an attribute that might contain longer Web site addresses, such as "www.azores.gov.pt/Portal/pt/entidades/sre-drtam/livres/ACL +Principal.htm". Therefore, it is proposed to change this into TextAddressType .

Change proposal details

Modify the ContactInformation class:
- make it non-abstract;
- remove the inheritance between ContactInformation and PostalAddress;
- remove the inheritance between ContactInformation and OnlineContact;
- remove the inheritance between ContactInformation and TelephoneContact;
- insert a new association with PostalAddress: name = hasAddress, navigable from ContactInformation, multiplicity of PostalAddress = 0..*, role of PostalAddress = address (" *A postal address for the contact*";
- insert a new association with OnlineContact: name = isOnline, navigable from ContactInformation, multiplicity of OnlineContact = 0..*, role of OnlineContact = networkNode (" *A direct link for the contact, over a data communication network*";
- insert a new association with TelephoneContact: name = hasPhoneFax, navigable from ContactInformation, multiplicity of TelephoneContact = 0..*, role of TelephoneContact = phoneFax (" *A phone or fax number for the contact*";
- change the data type of the attribute "linkage" of the OnlineContact class into TextAddressType.