



# Release Notes

**March 25, 2003**

RIXML Specification Version 2.1

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## Overview

Since the RIXML organization released version 2.0 of its specification for public comment last summer, the industry has experienced a broad shift in the way research publishers provide ratings for covered companies. Mostly in reaction to the changing regulatory climate, publishers have been generally converging on a three-tiered rating system combined with some other indicators for volatility, etc. We've recognized this change, and considered its impact on RIXML. We believe version 2.1 is better matched to what publishers are doing, and that it will be an improved basis for tagging and classification of research content.

## Changes

This section itemizes the changes made between version 2.0 and version 2.1.

### Recommendation

- Renamed the *Recommendation* element to *Rating* to more closely match the terminology in common use among publishers.
- Renamed the *recommendation* attribute of the *Rating* element to *rating*.
- Updated the descriptions of the *timeFrame*, *priorCurrent*, and *rating* attributes of the *Rating* element to reflect the new name of the parent.
- Updated the descriptions of the *PublisherDefinedValue* and *Description* elements contained in the *Rating* element to reflect the new name of the parent.
- Renamed the *RecommendationEnum* enumeration to *RatingEnum*.
- Updated the description of the *RatingEnum* enumeration.
- Removed the *StrongBuy* enumeration value of the *RatingEnum* enumeration.
- Renamed the *Buy* enumeration value of the *RatingEnum* enumeration to *PositiveSentiment*.
- Renamed the *Hold* enumeration value of the *RatingEnum* enumeration to *NeutralSentiment*.
- Renamed the *Sell* enumeration value of the *RatingEnum* enumeration to *NegativeSentiment*.
- Renamed the *NoRecommendation* enumeration value of the *RatingEnum* enumeration to *NoRating*.
- Updated the descriptions of the *PositiveSentiment*, *NeutralSentiment*, *NegativeSentiment*, *NoRating*, and *PublisherDefined* enumeration values of the *RatingEnum* enumeration.
- Renamed *RecommendationActionEnum* enumeration to *RatingActionEnum*.
- Updated the descriptions of the *Upgrade*, *Reiterate*, *Downgrade*, *Initiate*, *Drop*, and *Revise* enumeration values of the *RatingActionEnum* enumeration.
- Renamed the *recommendationAction* attribute of the *SectorIndustry*, *Issuer*, *Security*, *Country*, and *Region* elements to *ratingAction* to reflect the new name of the *RatingActionEnum* enumeration.
- Added the *RatingRelationshipEnum* enumeration with values *CoverageUniverse*, *SectorIndustry*, *Market*, *ExpectedTotalReturn*, and *AbsoluteReturn*. This provides a context for the rating.
- Added the optional *relationship* attribute to the *Rating* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *RatingRelationshipEnum* enumeration.
- Added the *RatingVolatilityRiskEnum* enumeration with values *Low*, *Medium*, and *High*. This provides an indication of the potential price fluctuation of the rated entity.
- Added the optional *volatilityRisk* attribute to the *Rating* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *RatingVolatilityRiskEnum* enumeration.
- Added the optional *volatile* attribute to the *Rating* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the existing *YesNoEnum* enumeration.

- Added an aggregation relationship between the *Rating* and *Index* elements. One *Index* may contain zero or more *Ratings*.

### RatingAgency

- Renamed the *RatingAgency* element to *RatingEntity* to allow for the case where the rating entity is actually the publisher rather than an independent agency.
- Updated the description of the *RatingEntity* element.
- Renamed the *ratingAgency* attribute of the *RatingEntity* element to *ratingEntity*.
- Updated the description of the *PublisherDefinedValue* element contained by the *RatingEntity* element.
- Renamed the *RatingAgencyEnum* enumeration to *RatingEntityEnum*.
- Updated the description of the *RatingEntityEnum* enumeration.
- Added the *Publisher* enumeration value to the *RatingEntityEnum* enumeration.

### Weighting

- Updated the descriptions of the *timeFrame* and *weighting* attributes of the *Weighting* element.
- Added an aggregation relationship between the *Weighting* and *Index* elements. One *Index* may contain zero or more *Weightings*.

We've also made some other changes, unrelated to ratings. These are described below.

### ShortLongTermEnum

- Renamed the *ShortLongTermEnum* enumeration to *TermEnum* for simplicity.
- Changed the definition of the *ShortTerm* enumeration value of the *TermEnum* enumeration from < 270 days to < 12 months.
- Changed the definition of the *LongTerm* enumeration value of the *TermEnum* enumeration from >= 270 days to >= 12 months.
- Updated the mention of 270 days in the description of the *timeFrame* attribute of the *Rating* element to reflect the change in meaning of the *ShortTerm* and *LongTerm* enumeration values.

### SecurityFinancials

- Within the *SecurityFinancials* element, we've changed the way we handle four concepts: security dilution, GAAP basis, and restated and pro-forma values. Before, these were either unhandled, or bundled into the *SecurityFinancialQualifierEnum*. Now, we've split them out as follows...
- Renamed *SecurityFinancialQualifierEnum* enumeration to *SecurityDilutionEnum*, leaving values only for *Basic*, *Primary*, and *Diluted*.
- Added *FinancialStatementGAAPTypeEnum* enumeration with values *GAAPUS*, *GAAPLocal*, *GAAPIAS*, and *AnalystAdjustedNonGAAP*.
- Added the optional attribute *gaapType* to the *SecurityFinancials* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *FinancialStatementGAAPTypeEnum* enumeration.
- Added the optional attribute *restated* to the *SecurityFinancials* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *YesNoEnum* enumeration.
- Added the optional attribute *proForma* to the *SecurityFinancials* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *YesNoEnum* enumeration.

### IssuerFinancials

- We've changed the *IssuerFinancials* element in a similar fashion to *SecurityFinancials*.
- Removed the *IssuerFinancialQualifierEnum* enumeration.
- Removed the *issuerFinancialQualifier* attribute from the *IssuerFinancials* element. The notion of dilution does not apply to issuers.

- Added the optional attribute *gaapType* to the *IssuerFinancials* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *FinancialStatementGAAPTypeEnum* enumeration.
- Added the optional attribute *restated* to the *IssuerFinancials* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *YesNoEnum* enumeration.
- Added the optional attribute *proForma* to the *IssuerFinancials* element. The values allowed for this attribute are governed by the *YesNoEnum* enumeration.

### ProductCategory

- Changed the *productCategory* element contained by the *ProductCategory* element into an attribute. We were violating our own, stated, naming convention with this one.
- Updated the descriptions of the *productCategory* and *publisherDefinedValue* attributes of the *ProductCategory* element.

### InstantMessenger

- Added the *PublisherDefined* enumeration value to the *InstantMessengerTypeEnum* enumeration.
- Added the optional *publisherDefinedValue* attribute to the *InstantMessenger* element.

### Resource

- Changed the type of the *Data* element from *xsd:anyType* to *xsd:base64Binary* to support arbitrary payloads. This used to be of type *CDATA* in the RIXML 1.0 spec, which is no longer part of the W3C XML Schema Definition.
- Removed the *encoding* attribute, since it became inconsistent with new type of the *Data* element.

## Examples

Here we provide a couple of examples showing how the rating-related changes manifest themselves. Note that these examples are fabricated for the purpose of illustration. Also note that they are excerpts, rather than complete, valid RIXML samples.

### Equity

```
<Context priority="Medium" external="Yes">
  <IssuerDetails>
    <Issuer issuerType="Corporate" domicileCountryCode="us"
      sequence="1" primaryIndicator="Yes" fiscalYearEnd="2000-12-
      31T00:00:00">
      <SecurityDetails>
        <Security targetPriceAction="Update" ratingAction="Reiterate"
          estimateAction="Reiterate" sequence="1"
          primaryIndicator="Yes">
          <SecurityID tradingCountryCode="us" idType="RIC"
            idValue="OKL">
            <TradingExchange>NYSE</TradingExchange>
          </SecurityID>
          <AssetClass>Equity</AssetClass>
          <AssetType>Stock</AssetType>
          <SecurityType>Common</SecurityType>
          <Rating timeFrame="ShortTerm" priorCurrent="Current"
            rating="PositiveSentiment">

```

```

        relationship="CoverageUniverse" volatile="No"
        volatilityRisk="Medium" />
    <Rating timeFrame="ShortTerm" priorCurrent="Current"
        rating="PublisherDefined"
        relationship="CoverageUniverse" volatile="No">
        <PublisherDefinedValue>Outperform</PublisherDefinedVal
        ue>
    </Rating>
</Security>
</SecurityDetails>
<IssuerID idType="SEDOL" idValue="54321" />
<IssuerName nameType="Legal">
    <NameValue>Oklahoma Energy Corporation</NameValue>
</IssuerName>
<Description>Oklahoma Energy Corporation is one of the 10
    largest public independent natural gas producers in the
    United States with proved reserves of 1.6 trillion cubic feet
    of natural gas equivalent.
</Description>
</Issuer>
</IssuerDetails>
</Context>

```

## Fixed Income

```

<Context priority="Medium" external="Yes">
    <IssuerDetails>
        <Issuer issuerType="Corporate" domicileCountryCode="us"
            sequence="1" primaryIndicator="Yes" fiscalYearEnd="2003-12-
            31T00:00:00">
            <SecurityDetails>
                <Security sequence="2" primaryIndicator="Yes">
                    <SecurityID tradingCountryCode="us" idType="RIC"
                        idValue="NOC">
                        <TradingExchange>NYSE</TradingExchange>
                    </SecurityID>
                    <AssetClass>FixedIncome</AssetClass>
                    <AssetType>CorporateInvestmentGradeCredit
                        </AssetType>
                    <SecurityType>Common</SecurityType>
                    <Rating timeFrame="LongTerm" priorCurrent="Current"
                        rating="PositiveSentiment"
                        relationship="SectorIndustry" volatile="No"
                        volatilityRisk="Medium" />
                    <Rating timeFrame="ShortTerm" priorCurrent="Current"
                        rating="PublisherDefined" relationship="SectorIndustry"
                        volatile="No">
                        <PublisherDefinedValue>Low-BB</PublisherDefinedValue>
                    </Rating>
                </Security>
            </SecurityDetails>
            <IssuerID idType="CUSIP" idValue=" 66680710 " />
        </Issuer>
    </IssuerDetails>
</Context>

```

```
<IssuerName nameType="Legal">
  <NameValue>Northrop Grumman Corporation</NameValue>
</IssuerName>
<Description>Senior Debt Rating: Baa3, Stable Outlook / BBB-
, Review for an Upgrade SDB Value Opinion: Low-BBB.
Stable Credit in an Uncertain Environment.
</Description>
</Issuer>
</IssuerDetails>
</Context>
```

## Acknowledgements

The RIXML organization would like to thank those members of the investment research community at large for their insights submitted via email or via the RIXML message board.