History of BoreholeML / Former releases

As the lack of a common exchange format for borehole data was a significant handicap in many cross-border projects, a special working group (PK-XML) was established to model an XML-based format. The working group began the modelling process in September 2003, parallel and accompanying the EU-project “eEarth” (electronic access to the Earth through boreholes).

The modelling process of the Borehole Markup Language (BML) began after foundation of the PK-XML working group in September 2003.

BoreholeML 1: Header information

Version 1 of the BML was modelled for exchange of borehole header information.

The need for this was given in supporting the EU-project eEarth and the development of a borehole demonstrator for Germany, showing borehole locations on topographic maps in an Internet application.

It includes location and identification data, the detecting fields for drill method, drilling year, purpose, and last drilled horizon as well as a number of metadata, stating the availability of further information on detailed data (e.g. strata details, archive reports, scans, samples etc.). The modelling process on version 1 was finished in September 2004.

BoreholeML 2: Strata details

The modelling process for version 2 of the BML was a continuation of version 1 by adding a model for strata details to the header data, describing the geological profile and its version as well as the details on rock type, stratigraphical unit, genesis, carbonate content, compactness, and consistency of each layer interval.

These data, mainly derived from sample and layer descriptions, are the core data in the various borehole databases in Germany and in many other European countries.

The main progress was made in establishing key lists to describe the units by code or by text. BML2 was finished and published under in www.infogeo.de in April 2007.