Introducing the XII (XBRL International Inc.) Versioning Specifications

This document provides an introduction to the XII Versioning Specifications (XVS), the first two modules of which have now been released as Public Working Drafts (PWD). These are the first two modules of what will become a set of modules that will cover all aspects of the XBRL Specification and extension specifications like XBRL Dimensions and Formula.

The XII Versioning Specifications define a standardised format for a Versioning Report that can be used to provide information about the changes that exist between two versions of a taxonomy. XVS addresses a number of use cases including:

- Assisting software suppliers that have created mapping tables from their own environment to a specific XBRL DTS.

- Aiding DTS extenders who require information about how the base DTS that they have extended is being changed in 'the new release'.

- Assisting the migration of instance data between different versions of a taxonomy.

The specification has defined a set of XML elements to enable documentation of the business reasons behind changes made to a taxonomy. These can be connected (through the ID, IDref mechanism) to all the events that have taken place between two Discoverable Taxonomy Sets (DTS's). An event is a functional expression of technical changes that have been made to the DTS. The specification relies on discovery of both compared DTSs to find the actual changed value that events point at.

The current set of PWDs is split into the "Base Specification" and "Basic Concepts". The Base Specification defines a container for the versioning report and provides the ability to express business changes, the mapping between namespaces in the two DTSs being compared and the mapping between linkroles across DTS's. Basic Concepts provides the framework for defining relationships between equivalent and related concepts.

The two specifications contained in this initial release enable the communication of the following pieces of information when an update to a taxonomy is published:

- Where a concept exists in the new taxonomy that is a direct replacement for one in the old taxonomy, this relationship is made explicit, enabling fully automated migration of mapping tables or instance data.

- Where concepts do not have an exact replace, but have one or more concepts that constitute a logical replacement, this relationship can be documented, providing assistance to a manual migration of software and data. Human-readable documentation can be attached, to provide an explanation of the motivation behind a change.

Future modules will provide the ability to document more fine-grained changes, such as the reason for changes to individual labels, as well as providing the ability to tie versioning information to dimensional components. The Versioning Working Group currently plans to develop Public Working Drafts of the next two modules according to the following timelines:

- Concept Details: Public Working Draft in Jan 2010

- Dimensions: Public Working Draft by end of Feb 2010

We would like to invite you to express your views on how this versioning will (or will not) support you in your efforts to automate (part of) the process of migrating from one DTS to another. This invitation is aimed specifically at DTS authors, DTS extenders and software vendors that will create a versioning report and/or process the versioning report onto mapping tables. If you determine that the specification is lacking opportunities to support your business case, please bring them forward on versioning-feedback@xbrl.org for consideration by the Versioning Working Group.

To get you off to a quick start the VWG has supplied a presentation explaining the XVS, as used by the IFRS Taxonomy project, in a more graphical way.

International Accounting Standards Committee Foundation XBRL team

XBRL Versioning for IFRS Taxonomy

02 December 2009

Haiko Philipp

IASC Foundation

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter,
not necessarily those of the IASC Foundation or the IASB

Agenda

- Background - Versioning at the IASCF

- Versioning specification

- Versioning approach for the IFRS

- Challenges

- Background: annual update of the IFRS Taxonomy resulting from the changes in the written Bound Volume of IFRSs

  - Enhancements to the change management and its standardized communication necessary

- Discussions about versioning at IASCF since 2004

  - Resulted in a prototype presented in 2006

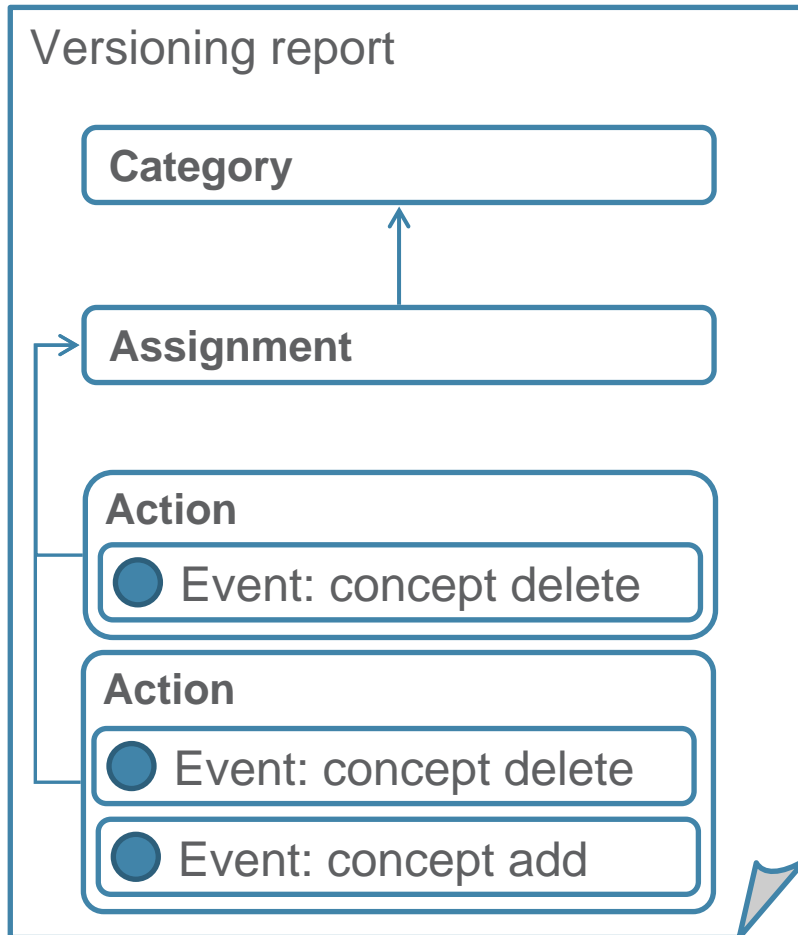 - Prototype and feedback on it were input for the versioning WG

Background - Versioning at the IASCF

- Project objective: enhance change management
  - IFRS Taxonomy developer:
    - More transparent development process (easier comparison)
    - Represents taxonomy developer view on the changes (explanation of changes)
    - Enables statistics
  - Software developers
    - Standardized way of communication of taxonomy changes (former proprietary software)
    - Possibility of automated consumption of versioning report
  - XBRL tools:
    - Better workload estimation while migrating between taxonomy releases
      - Instance producer
      - Taxonomy extender
    - Enable automated processing

Versioning specification
Versioning report structure

Versioning report

Category

Assignment

Action
- Event: concept delete

Action
- Event: concept delete
- Event: concept add
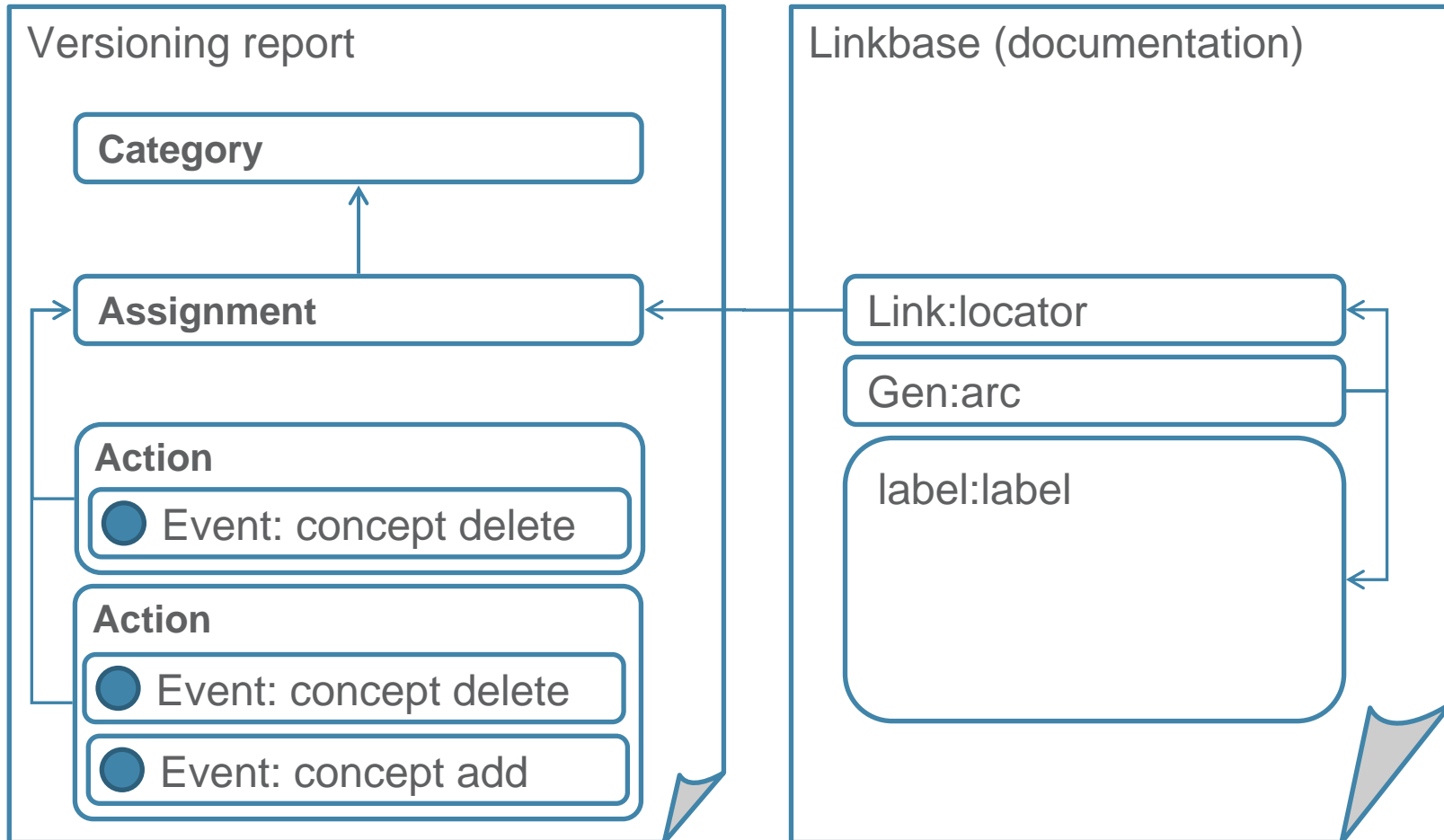
- Category: Categories the change
  - (default: technical-, business-, errata change)

- Assignment: Versioning Task
  - Enable documentation
  - Enable categorization

- Action: Grouping of events
  - Grouping of events
  - Association to assignments

- Event
  - Reports the change

Versioning specification
Versioning report structure

Versioning specification
Versioning report events

- Concepts
    - ConceptAdd
    - ConceptDelete
    - ConceptName
    - ConceptType
    - ConceptSubstitution Group
    - ConceptPeriodType
    - ConceptBalance
    - ConceptAbstract
    - ConceptNillable
    - …

- Resources
    - ResourceAdd
    - ResourceDelete
    - ResourceValue
    - ResourceChildAdd
    - ResourceChildDelete
    - ResourceRole
    - …

- Relationship
    - RelationshipAdd
    - RelationshipDelete
    - RelationshipNext
    - RelationshipPrevious
    - …

Versioning specification
Versioning modularisation

- Objective: deliver versioning specifications faster
  - Modularization is event based

Versioning basic	Defines syntax and semantic for all base elements in a versioning report
Concept base	version business equivalence between concepts
Concept extended	Version concept related meta information (concept attributes)
Dimensions	Version differences in the dimensional model in two taxonomies
Relationships	Version differences in ELRs
Formulas	Version differences in the formula model

Versioning specification
Versioning modularisation

- Objective: deliver versioning specifications faster
  - Modularization is event based

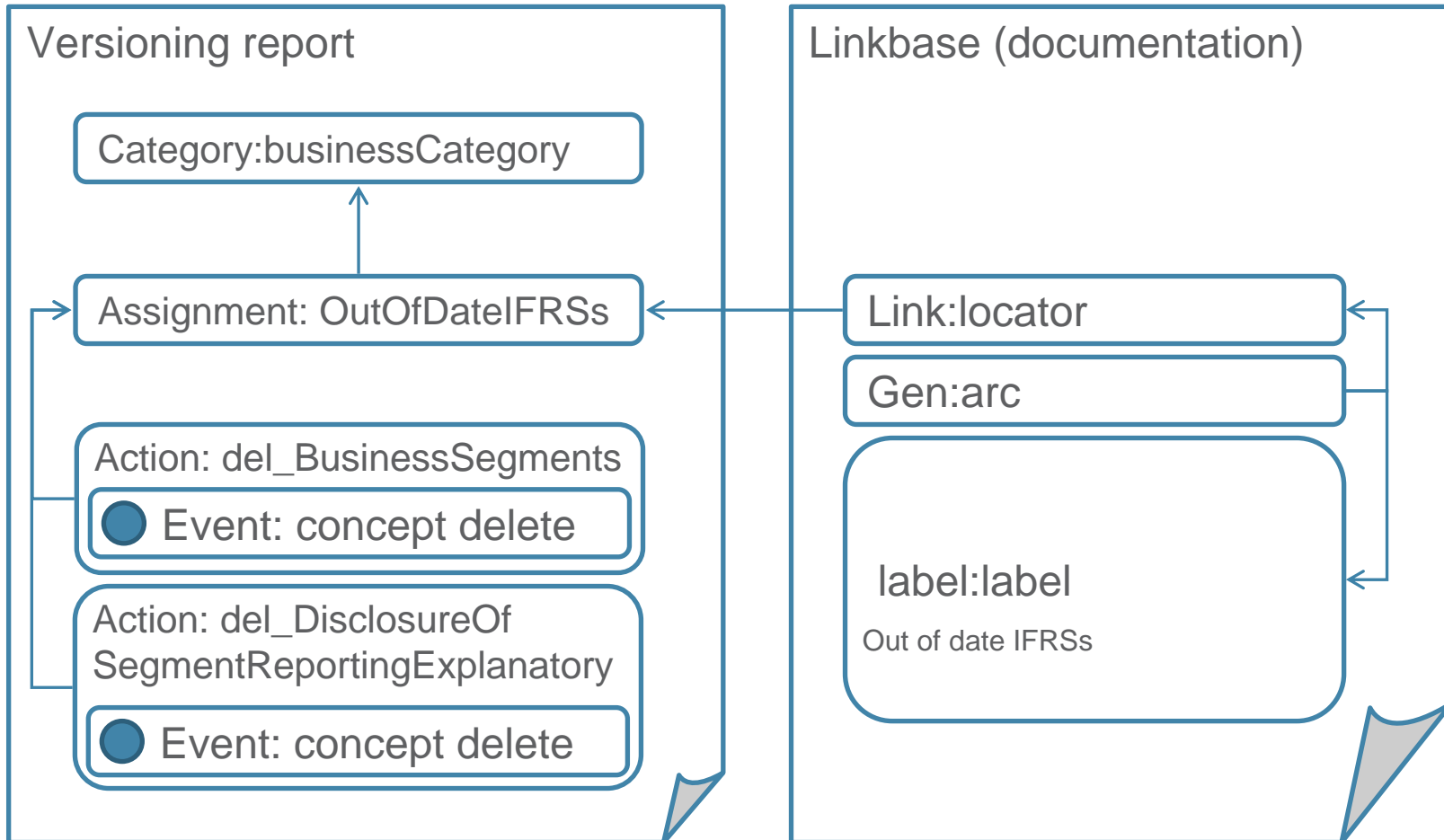|	
Versioning basic	Defines syntax and semantic for all base elements in a versioning report Categroy, assignment, action
Concept base	Version business equivalence between concepts ConceptAdd, ConceptDelete, ConceptName
Concept extended	Version concept related meta information (concept attributes) ConceptTpye, ConceptSubstitutionGroup, ConceptPeriodType, …
Dimensions	Version differences in the dimensional model in two taxonomies TBD
Relationships	Version differences in ELRs RelationshipAdd, RelationshipDelete, …
Formulas	Version differences in the formula model TBD

Versioning approach for IFRS

- Where are IFRS Taxonomy changes coming from?

- Physical / structural changes

  - Changed file and folder names, updated namespaces, role URIs

  - New technologies: XBRL dimension (new schema definitions)

- Semantic changes

  - Updated, deleted and new IFRSs

  - Taxonomy improvements (typos, reference updates,...)

Versioning approach for IFRS

- Versioning report for IFRS

  - Categories: use default categories only

    - Default categories: errata, business, technical

  - Assignments: objective is keep assignments stable over a period of time

    - Definition of major tasks like "OutOfDateIFRSs", "WordingImprovements", …

  - Actions: focus on concepts (one Action per one concept)

    - Concepts are currently crucial for stakeholders

Versioning approach for IFRS

Versioning report

Category:businessCategory

Assignment: OutOfDateIFRSs

Action: del_BusinessSegments
⬤ Event: concept delete

Action: del_DisclosureOf
SegmentReportingExplanatory
⬤ Event: concept delete

Linkbase (documentation)

Link:locator

Gen:arc

label:label
Out of date IFRSs

Versioning approach for IFRS

- Versioning report approach used for IFRS:
  - Light versioning report
  - Comprehensive versioning report
- Reasons for providing two versioning reports
  - Identification of two major groups of stakeholders
    - Requesting an overview of major changes in the taxonomy
    - Implement the IFRS Taxonomy into their software and requiring detailed list of changes
- Human readable visualization of light report (PDF)

Versioning approach for IFRS

- Light version report (basic changes for concepts)
  - Concepts added: 201 [concept add event]
  - Concepts deleted: 152 [concept delete event]
  - Concepts renamed: 194 [concept name event]
- Comprehensive version report (basic changes + detailed changes for concept attributes and resources)
  - Basic changes (all basic changes for concepts)
  - Changed attributes
  - Added, deleted, corrected labels
  - Added, deleted references
  - Current approach does not document changes in presentation-, calculation- and definition linkbases

- Syntax changes in the specification

- Versioning of presentation, calculation and definition linkbases

- Dimensional versioning not supported by current spec

- Ex-ante vs. ex-post explanation of changes

- Lack of clear understanding of versioning usage in the market (documentation vs. automated change log vs. migration tool)

- Lack of software that support versioning

- Physical/structural aspects of migration (changes to file and folder names, web locations, etc.)

Physical/structural aspects of migration

- Objective: automatic migration from IFRS 08 to IFRS 09 for IFRS extensions

- In the adoption process the current versioning report cover
    - Namespace mapping
    - Role mapping
    - Recognition of changes that actually affect the extension
- Not covered
    - Changed file / folder names

```
<xsd:import namespace="http://xbrl.iasb.org/taxonomy/2009-04-01/ifrs"
    schemaLocation="ifrs-cor_2009-04-01.xsd"/>
```

• Sample mapping scenario

- Objective: automatic migration from IFRS 08 to IFRS 09 in a RDBMS which stores instance data
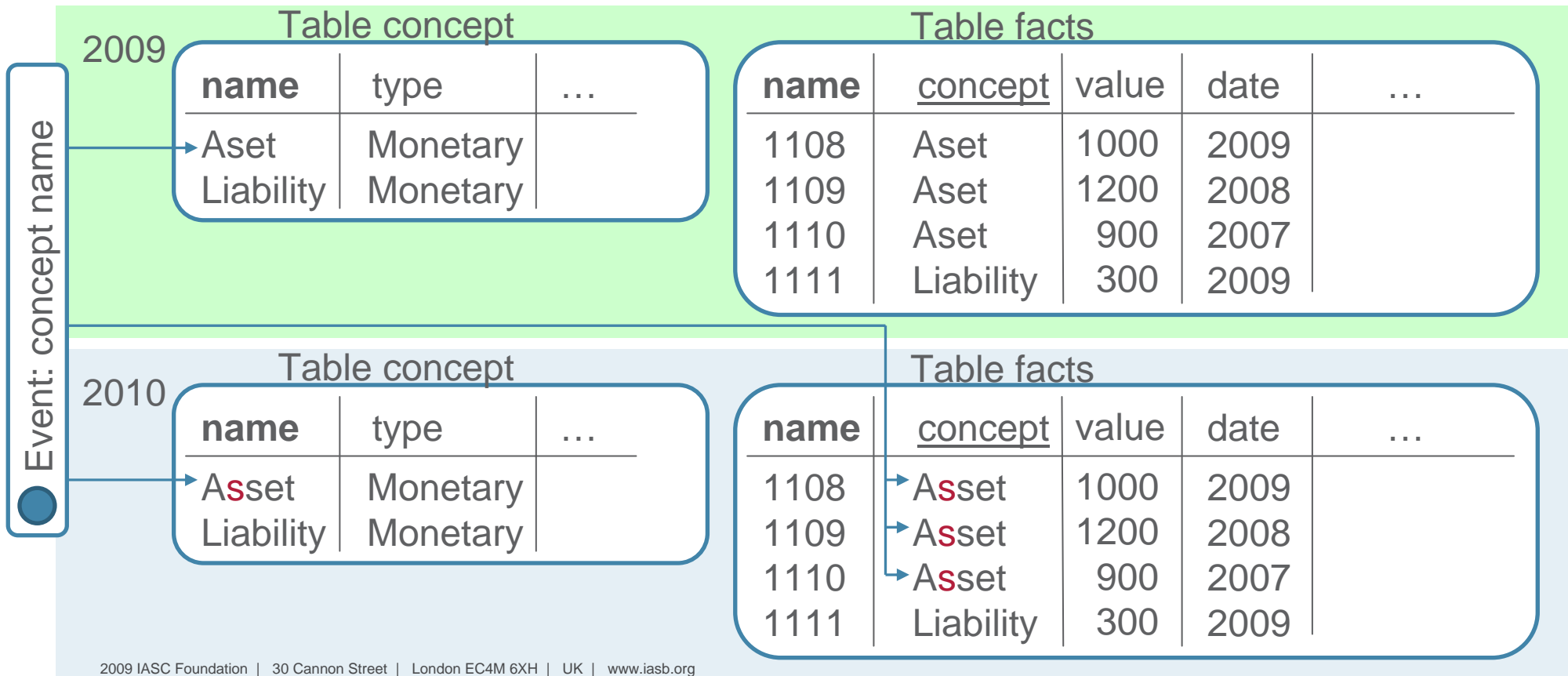
Taxonomy metadata

Instance data

- Concepts-table
- Relationship-table
- Labels-table
- References-table

- Facts-table
- Context-table
- Units-table
- Dimensions-table

- Model is based on the xbrl data model

Sample mapping scenario

- ⬤ Event: concept name   indicating business equivalence

  - Enables remapping of facts and indicating equivalence

Event: concept name

2009

Table concept

name	type	…
Aset	Monetary	
Liability	Monetary	

Table facts

name	concept	value	date	…
1108	Aset	1000	2009	
1109	Aset	1200	2008	
1110	Aset	900	2007	
1111	Liability	300	2009	

2010

Table concept

name	type	…
Asset	Monetary	
Liability	Monetary	

Table facts

name	concept	value	date	…
1108	Asset	1000	2009	
1109	Asset	1200	2008	
1110	Asset	900	2007	
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Questions?

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