

Citizen-Centered E-Government

The Importance of Standards

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Some Pertinent Issues

- Why Standards?
- President's Management Agenda (PMA)
 - ▶ Electronic Government (eGov) Strategy
 - ▶ Lines of Business (LOBs) & eGov Projects
- OMB Circulars
 - ▶ A-119, Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards
 - ▶ A-76, Performance of Commercial Activities
- Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA)
 - ▶ Data Reference Model (DRM)
 - ▶ Technical Reference Model (TRM)
- Electronic Government (eGov) Act

Why Standards?

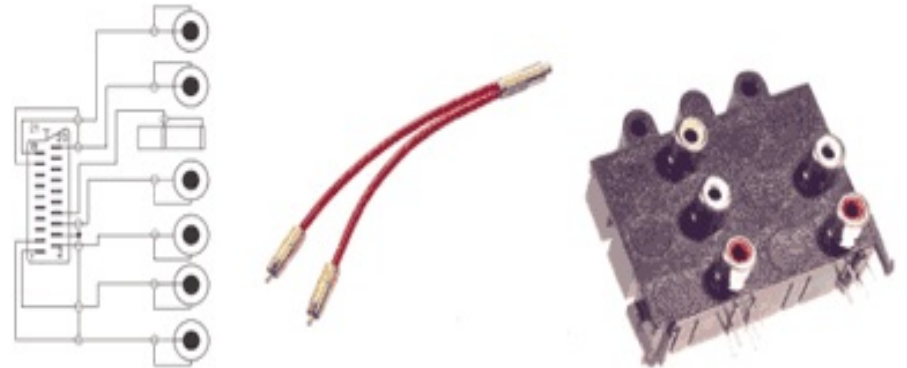
Credit to Association Management Solutions, LLC

- What do you call a technology created and adopted by only one company?

- ▶ **A *Product***

- What do you call a standard created by leaders and adopted by an association?

- ▶ **An *Industry***



<http://www.amsl.com/whystandards.html>

President's Management Agenda

eGov Strategy

■ Purposes

- ▶ Eliminate billions of dollars of wasteful IT spending
- ▶ Reduce paperwork burden on citizens & businesses
- ▶ Improve response time to citizens

■ Guiding Principles

- ▶ Citizen-centered – not bureaucracy or agency-centered
- ▶ Results-oriented – measurable improvements for citizens
- ▶ Market-based – actively promoting innovation

http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/2003egov_strat.pdf

Lines of Business

Larger Stovepipes or Citizen-Centered Data Services?

- What is a “line of business”?
 - ▶ Category in FEA Business Reference Model (BRM)?
 - ▶ People? ... Process? ... Technology?
 - ▶ Unique Elements of **Data!**
- Some Highly Relevant LOBs
 - ▶ Financial Management (FM)
 - ▶ Grants Management (GM)
 - ▶ Budget Formulation & Execution (BFE)
 - ▶ IT Security (ITS)
 - ▶ IT Infrastructure (IOI)
- Data Stovepipes or Citizen-Centered?
 - ▶ Data Standards!

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/c-6-lob.html>

eGov Projects

G2C, G2G & IEE Portfolios

- Government to Citizen (G2C)
 - ▶ GovBenefits.gov
 - ▶ IRS Free File
 - ▶ E-Loans
- Government to Government (G2G)
 - ▶ E-Vital
 - ▶ Grants.gov
- Internal Efficiency & Effectiveness (IEE)
 - ▶ E-Payroll
 - ▶ E-Travel
 - ▶ Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE)
 - ▶ E-Records Management

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/c-presidential.html>

eGov Projects

Government to Business (G2B) Portfolio

- Expanded Electronic Tax Products
- Federal Asset Sales
- International Trade Streamlining
- Business Gateway
 - ▶ eForms Service
 - ▶ Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)
 - ▶ Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA)
 - ▶ FEA Data Reference Model (DRM)
 - ▶ XML Community of Practice (xmlCoP)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/c-3-business.html>

OMB Circular A-119

Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS)

- Use VCS in lieu of government-unique standards
- Reduce reliance on government-unique standards
- Avoid discrimination among private sector standards

- However, some of the LOBs & eGov projects are
 - Specifying gov-unique data standards
 - Dictating use of proprietary software

- VCS examples include XML & XBRL
- Specify XML schemas & let citizens & businesses use whatever software **they** choose

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a119/a119.html>

OMB Circular A-76

Inherently Governmental Versus Commercial Activities

- Certain functions are inherently Governmental in nature, being so intimately related to the public interest as to mandate performance only by Federal employees
- The Federal Government shall rely on commercially available sources to provide commercial products and services

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a076/a076.html>

OMB Circular A-76

My Assertions

- Determining the data requirements to conduct “We the People’s” business is an inherently governmental function
- Whenever possible, commercial and industrial standards should be used; however ...
- To the degree that such data standards may not exist or are inconsistent with each other, it is incumbent upon government officials to specify them as soon as possible
 - ▶ Not only within but also across LOBs & eGov projects
 - ▶ To achieve “citizen-centered” standardization
 - ▶ Example: XBRL taxonomies for .gov regulatory reports

FEA Data Reference Model

Toward Citizen-Centered Data Standardization

- Governmentwide Data Standardization Areas
 - ▶ Description
 - ▶ Context (Taxonomies)
 - ▶ Sharing
- XML Schema
 - ▶ Enable Sharing of DRM Metadata
- Discovery, Access & Use of Government Records
 - ▶ Querying Elements of DRM Metadata
 - ▶ Browsing Context/Taxonomies
- Data “Harmonization”
 - ▶ Standardization
 - ▶ Authoritative Sources
 - ▶ “Mapping”

http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/documents/DRM_2_0_Final.pdf

eGov Act

Subsection 207(d)

- Open standards to enable the organization and categorization of Government information
- Searchable electronically by unique identifiers
- Definition of categories of Government information
- .gov XBRL taxonomies as authoritative sources in DRM

<http://xml.gov/documents/completed/eGovXML.htm#207d>

FEA Technical Reference Model

XML & XBRL Mappings

- Service Interface & Integration
 - ▶ Interoperability
 - Data Format/Classification
 - ★ Extensible Markup Language (XML)
- Component Framework
 - ▶ Data Management
 - Reporting & Analyses
 - ★ Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)
- Agencies should take these VCS into account in their enterprise architectures (EA), IT modernization transition plans, and capital planning & investment (CPIC) processes

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/documents/CRM.PDF>

Questions

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