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More on IPv6 in the next Issue!

A message from the OMB Chief Architect: Think Strategically, Act Tactically

The beginning of the fiscal year kicks off the six month period when agency architects should be working with program managers to design segment architectures for lines of business. Agencies can take the opportunity over the next several months to develop Line of Business (LoB) architectures that meet business needs while aligning to their agency enterprise architecture. A key to success is building a level of trust and cooperation between the architects and program officials. This partnership requires time listening to business leaders, and replacing architect-speak with business-speak.

Ensuring segment architectures accurately reflect program business needs by the early Spring enables the designs to be used to guide the agency IT investment process beginning in the 3rd quarter in time for your agency’s budget spring planning cycle. This planning period applies equally to business areas defined in the agency business model, as well as cross-agency and cross-government initiatives. For example, agencies should begin now to plan how major infrastructure initiatives, such as Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD 12), Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6), and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) programs can be planned from an enterprise point of view with an integrated set of segment architectures. By thinking strategically (enterprise) and acting tactically (segment), architects can use these six months to develop trust with program officials, better understand program needs, and layout the ‘blueprint’ for the agency investment portfolio.

Governance Processes Established

The Federal Enterprise Architecture Program Management Office (FEA PMO), in conjunction with the Architecture and Infrastructure Committee (AIC) of the CIO Council, recently finalized two important governance processes directly serving the Federal architecture community:

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

11/2005 - IPv6 inventories to be completed

12/2005 - OMB to issue EA Assessment Framework 2.0

2/2006 - Agency Enterprise Architectures due to OMB for assessment

- **Reference Model Governance** - defines the process for maintaining and modifying the FEA reference models.
- **CORE.gov Governance** – defines the process for reviewing and approving services and service components for posting on CORE.gov.

For more information on the above listed processes please visit www.egov.gov or www.cio.gov

EA Assessment Framework v2.0 Out for Review

The EA Assessment Framework v2.0 was recently released through the AIC for official comment from the Federal architecture community. It expands the assessment criteria beyond just **Completion** of an EA, to include **Use** and **Results** from the EA. In addition, it includes a **Policy Alignment** Capability Area to assess agency adoption and incorporation of policies/action such as, transition to IPv6, E-Gov alignment, and SmartBUY use. It also outlines guidance on how agencies can develop transition strategies for moving from agency current state, to the target state architecture. Version 2.0 will be released to the entire Federal community soon and will be used for the annual agency assessments during the second quarter of 2006. Your comments are solicited; direct them through your agency representative to the AIC.

Data Reference Model (DRM) is Moving Forward

The AIC inter-agency DRM working group produced a final draft of the DRM (version 20.0) for review by the CIO council. The public release of the DRM is anticipated on December 17, 2005.

Geospatial and Records Management Profiles

Close to Release

The FEA PMO is partnering with the AIC to complete the Geospatial Profile. This profile will provide a consistent framework to be applied within, and across agencies to identify the use of geospatial data across lines of business. A draft version of the profile should be available for review by the end of the month.

The Records Management (RM) Profile provides an architecture-based methodology for agencies to use in defining RM requirements and applying RM policies and procedures across the organization. The profile also describes where, and how, records management should be addressed in the systems development lifecycle and defines several implementation options for agencies to meet their RM responsibilities. The Records Management Profile is currently being finalized by the Architecture and Infrastructure Committee of the CIO Council, and is scheduled to be released soon.

FEA Profiles cut across the FEA reference models. The profiles are based on a particular subject matter and describe how each reference model addresses the specific area. Each one provides the agencies a way to use existing resources, standards, and best practices to improve their business functions through the subject matter.

About The Federal Architect

The Federal Architect is your source for important FEA related news, updates, and information. The newsletter's goal is to share Federal Enterprise Architecture information with stakeholders across the federal government. This quarterly on-line publication will highlight recent releases, best practices, OMB guidance, and other relevant information.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. If someone in your organization would like to receive *The Federal Architect* or has ideas for future publication content, please contact us at the email address below.

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