



## **Results of FY 2007 Federal Enterprise Architecture Assessment**

In response to several inquiries regarding the Enterprise Architecture (EA) Assessment results overall this year, we have composed this summary which documents the quality of EA in the Federal government has improved from one year ago. Despite facing more rigorous EA scoring standards in 2007, 19 of the 24 agencies assessed earned a rating of “green” (satisfactory). Additionally, the average score in each of the three major assessment categories, i.e., Completion, Use, and Results, showed a significant increase over last year’s assessment. The six agencies with the highest EA assessment scores this year are (in alphabetical order): Department of Education, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Interior, Department of Labor, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Science Foundation.

The EA assessment scores identified performance management and information technology (IT) transition planning remain areas which could benefit from additional focus in the agencies. This finding is consistent with the recent announcement by OMB Deputy Director, Clay Johnson, regarding the creation of a new performance management council (similar to existing councils for chief financial officers, chief information officers, chief acquisition officers and chief human capital officers) as part of a push to institutionalize the initiatives that comprise the President’s Management Agenda (PMA). The assessment also revealed data management and information sharing efforts are gaining an increased level of focus and maturity within each of the agencies. This is due, in part, to OMB’s requirement for agencies to develop an enterprise data architecture which inventories, categorizes and harmonizes the agencies’ information assets.

Enterprise Architecture is a discipline used by organizations to perform strategic planning, and develop “blueprints” of their future-state. EA is used by the Federal government as a management tool to ensure planning and budgeting activities (particularly those related to information technology) are aligned with the strategic goals of the organization, and to identify opportunities for collaboration and reuse of resources across an agency and across the government. As part of the PMA, the EA programs of 24 Federal government agencies are reviewed and scored annually against criteria within OMB’s Enterprise Architecture Assessment Framework (EAAF). The Framework assesses the maturity of agencies’ EA programs in 13 different categories by scoring them on a scale from one to five. Each of the 13 areas is aggregated into one of three higher-level categories: Completion, Use, and Results. Several change made to the EAAF in 2007 made it more difficult for agencies to earn an overall rating of “green” for EA, requiring them to earn an average score of 4.0 in Completion, 3.0 in Use, and 3.0 in Results. This was a higher standard than 2006, when agencies were required to earn an average score of 3.0, 3.0, and 3.0. There were also new requirements added to the Framework this year – in particular, the completion of a segment architecture and the achievement of IT cost savings/avoidance.

This year, 19 agencies achieved a rating of “green”, one agency was rated as “yellow”, and four were rated as “red”. All of the four agencies rated as “red” did not successfully complete a segment architecture, and therefore, received a score of less than 4.0 in Completion.

The average score in the Completion category improved from 3.3 in 2006, to 4.0 in 2007. The average score in the Use category improved from 3.2 in 2006 to 3.6 in 2007. The average score in Results showed the largest year over year increase, improving from 2.9 in 2006 to 3.6 in 2007.

Of the 13 categories evaluated, the two with the highest average score among all agencies were:

- Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6) Planning (Results)
- Business Architecture (Completion)

The categories with the lowest average score were:

- Transition Strategy Performance (Results)
- Cost Savings and Cost Avoidance (Results)

In IPv6 Planning, agencies have continued to move forward with IPv6 implementation. More than half of the agencies are on track to achieve the June 30, 2008 deadline. However, the remaining agencies need to provide additional evidence to demonstrate they are achieving the milestones set forth in their IPv6 transition plans. OMB will be following up with these agencies in the coming months.

The majority of agencies (19 out of 24) were also able to demonstrate they are realizing IT cost savings, cost avoidance, and/or satisfactory program performance, i.e., Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). However, since cost savings/avoidance was the second-lowest scoring category, agencies could benefit from additional focus in this area.

OMB has reviewed the detailed results of the assessment with each of the 24 agencies, and is providing them with feedback on how to further mature their EA programs in the upcoming year. The Federal Enterprise Architecture Program Management Office (FEA PMO) within OMB will soon be releasing additional guidance which addresses how agencies can measure the value of EA to program performance. The measurement of EA value will be a strategic priority for the FEA PMO this year, and will likely be reflected in the EA Assessment Framework for 2008.

Additional information about the Federal Enterprise Architecture assessment is located at:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/a-2-EAAssessment.html> .