

**National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection**  
**October 12-13, 2006**

**Working Together To Protect Public Health:  
The Public Health Communications Infrastructure**

**Purpose**

This briefing paper is being provided to update the Committee on the status of FSIS and our public health communications infrastructure. On May 23, 2006, FSIS presented an overview of our Enterprise Architecture Governance Process at the NACMPI meeting.

**Discussion**

FSIS continues to improve communication between the business and IT components within the agency through standardized vocabulary; strategic use of emerging technologies; expeditious integration of legacy, migration and new systems; leveraging and sharing of data across agencies; and establishment of the Enterprise Architecture Governance Process.

Enterprise Architecture will help us define the overall agency mission, and the technologies necessary to perform this mission and the critical processes needed for responding to changing mission needs. FSIS realizes the importance of getting the right information and data to the right people at the right time. In doing, so FSIS has established an internal working group, which encompasses all program areas within the agency with links to our external stakeholders. Enterprise Architecture within FSIS is business driven; this business-based framework will allow us to make improvements in these key areas:

- Budget allocations
- Information sharing
- Performance measurements
- Cross agency collaboration
- eGovernment

The strategic outcome of this effort will be a more citizen-centered customer focused agency that maximizes technology investment to better achieve mission outcomes that drive the direction of the government.

In an effort to identify problems and minimize risk, FSIS is aligning its day-to-day business functions with the strategic plan of the overall agency. Thus, the value of Enterprise Architecture lies in the relationships, interactions, and dependencies inherent to the business operations of FSIS.

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