#### Implementing the New OMB Policies for Federal Public Websites

OMB issued new policies for Federal public websites on December 17, 2004. Following is guidance on implementing those policies developed by the Interagency Committee on Government Information (ICGI).

OMP Policy	Implementation Cuidence
OMB Policy  1. Establish and maintain information dissemination	Implementation Guidance
<ol> <li>Establish and maintain information dissemination product inventories, priorities, and schedules</li> </ol>	Use suggested procedures for establishing priorities and schedules for posting     context, bttp://www.firstgov.gov/websentext/reg6g.ehtml
a. Your agency is already required under OMB Circular A-	content: http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6g.shtml
130 and the Paperwork Reduction Act to disseminate	Provide access to documents in different file formats
information to the public in a timely, equitable, efficient	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3c.shtml
	Provide access for people with disabilities:
and appropriate manner and to maintain inventories of information dissemination products	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6c.shtml
	Provide access to people with limited English proficiency:
<ul> <li>b. Section 207 of the E-Government Act requires your agency to develop priorities and schedules for making</li> </ul>	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6f.shtml
government information available and accessible to the	Provide common access to a broad range of visitors:
public, in accordance with public comment, and to post	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3a.shtml
this information on your agency's website. Section 207	Provide dates and ensure content is current:
also requires your agency to report to OMB, as part of	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1d.shtml
the agency's annual E-Government Act report, the final	Organize content according to citizen needs:
determinations of inventories, priorities, and schedules	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2a.shtml
your agency has made.	Use basic common content and placement:
<ul><li>c. Your agency must also post to your agency's website any</li></ul>	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2d.shtml
updates to your agency's final determination of	o <u>contact information</u>
inventories, priorities, and schedules and include this	o <u>Site Map or Subject Index</u>
information in your agency's annual E-Government Act	o <u>Common or Frequently Asked Questions</u>
report.	o <u>Online Services</u>
report.	o <u>Forms and Publications</u>
	o <u>Jobs</u>
	o <u>Information about Regulations</u>
	o <u>Information about Grants and Contracts</u>
	Measure customer satisfaction and usability:
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2e.shtml
	Write and organize homepage from the viewpoint of the public
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2b.shtml
	Use consistent navigation <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3e.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3e.shtml</a>
	Use plain language: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3b.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3b.shtml</a>
	Link to the home page <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4d.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4d.shtml</a>
	Ensure continuity of operations during emergencies
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3i.shtml
	Avoid duplication <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4a.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4a.shtml</a>
	Collaborate in developing cross-agency portals
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4b.shtml
	Inform audiences of website changes:
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3h.shtml

OMB Policy	Implementation Guidance
·	Follow basic linking practices: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1c.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1c.shtml</a>
	Supporting documents:
	OMB A-130, "Management of Federal Information Resources"
	http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy2005/m05-04.pdf
	Paperwork Reduction Act
	E-Government Act of 2002, Section 207
2. Ensure information quality	Provide dates and ensure content is current
A. Your agency is already required under the Information	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1d.shtml
Quality Act and associated guidelines to maximize the	Provide access to documents in different file formats
quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information and	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3c.shtml
services provided to the public. This includes making	Provide access for people with disabilities:
information and services available on a timely and equitable	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/reg6c.shtml
basis.	Provide access to people with limited English proficiency:
B. Agencies must reasonably assure suitable information and	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6f.shtml
service quality, consistent with the level of importance of the	<ul> <li>Provide common access to a broad range of visitors:</li> </ul>
information. Reasonable steps include: 1) clearly identifying	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3a.shtml
the limitations inherent in the information dissemination	Measure customer satisfaction and usability:
product (e.g., possibility of errors, degree of reliability, and	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2e.shtml
validity) so users are fully aware of the quality and integrity of	Organize content according to citizen needs:
the information or service, 2) taking reasonable steps to	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2a.shtml
remove the limitations inherent in the information, and 3) reconsidering delivery of the information or services.	Write and organize homepage from the viewpoint of the public
reconsidering delivery of the information of services.	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2b.shtml
	<ul> <li>Use consistent navigation <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3e.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3e.shtml</a></li> </ul>
	Use basic common content and placement:
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2d.shtml
	o Contact information
	o Site Map or Subject Index
	o Common or Frequently Asked Questions
	o Online Services
	o Forms and Publications
	o Jobs
	o Information about Regulations
	o Information about Grants and Contracts
	Use plain language: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3b.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3b.shtml</a> Avoid duplication http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3b.shtml
	Avoid duplication <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4a.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4a.shtml</a> Collaborate in developing gross agency portals
	Collaborate in developing cross-agency portals     http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4b.shtml
	<ul> <li>Follow basic linking practices: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1c.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1c.shtml</a></li> <li>Ensure Information Quality: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6e.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6e.shtml</a></li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Ensure information Quality: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/weocontent/reqbe.sntml">http://www.firstgov.gov/weocontent/reqbe.sntml</a></li> <li>Avoid publishing information on the public website that is just for employees:</li> </ul>
	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2c.shtml

OMB Policy	Implementation Guidance
3. Establish and enforce agency-wide linking policies  A. Agencies must now establish and enforce explicit agency-wide linking policies describing management controls for	Supporting documents  Information Quality Act  "Guidelines for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by Federal agencies: (67 FR 5365)  Follow basic linking practices: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1c.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1c.shtml</a> Include required links: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2d10.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2d10.shtml</a> Post strategic plans: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6l.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6l.shtml</a>
linking within and beyond the agency.  B. These policies must appropriately limit external linking to	Post strategic plans. <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6.shtml</a> Post a link to FOIA: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6a.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6a.shtml</a> Post a link to FOIA: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6a.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6a.shtml</a>
<ul><li>information or services necessary for the proper performance of an agency function.</li><li>C. Agency linking policies must also include reasonable</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Post a link to No Fear data: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6o.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6o.shtml</a></li> <li>Post a small business point-of-contact:</li> </ul>
management controls to assure external links remain active or otherwise continue to provide the level of quality (including objectivity, utility, and integrity) as intended by the agency and expected by users.  D. OMB's Information Quality guidelines exclude hyperlinks from	<ul> <li>http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6m.shtml</li> <li>Post strategic and performance plans and organizational Info:         <ul> <li>http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2d2.shtml</li> </ul> </li> <li>Post a link to FirstGov: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4e.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4e.shtml</a> </li> <li>Links to other cross-agency portals: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4c.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req4c.shtml</a></li> </ul>
the definition of information. This exclusion does not remove agency responsibility to exercise due diligence when determining whether to link externally. Therefore, when an agency determines external links are necessary for and material to the presentation of agency information or the delivery of services in the proper performance of an agency function, they must take reasonable steps to ensure the presentation is accurate, relevant, timely, and complete.  E. Agencies must reasonably assure suitable information and	Supporting documentation:  E-Gov Act of 2002 (Section 7)  No Fear Act of 2002  Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002  OMB memorandum M-03-22, "OMB Guidance for Implementing the Privacy Provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002" http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/m03-22.html
service quality, consistent with the level of importance of the information. Reasonable steps include: 1) clearly identifying the limitations inherent in the information dissemination product e.g., possibility of errors, degree of reliability, and validity) so users are fully aware of the quality and integrity of the information or service, 2) taking reasonable steps to remove the limitations inherent in the information, and 3) reconsidering linking to the information or services. Agency links to commercial organizations or interest groups present special challenges with respect to maintaining agency objectivity and thus must be used judiciously.	
F. Agency linking policies must identify mandatory links and post (or link to) the following information on their principal website and any known major entry points to their sites: 1) the agency's strategic plan and annual performance plans; 2)	

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	descriptions of agency organizational structure, mission and statutory authority; 3) information made available under the Freedom of Information Act; 4); specific website privacy policies; 5) FirstGov.gov; 6) summary statistical data about equal employment opportunity complaints filed with the agency and written notification of "Whistleblower" rights and protections as required by the No Fear Act of 2002; 7) the agency point of contact for small businesses as required by the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002; and 8) other crossgovernment portals or links required by law or policy.	
4.		Measure customer satisfaction and usability and use results to improve your
	Governments	website: http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req2e.shtml
A.	Your agency is already required under OMB Circular A-1304	Paperwork Reduction Act <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6h.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6h.shtml</a>
	to establish and maintain communications with members of the public and with State and local governments to ensure	Companying decomposites
	your agency creates information dissemination products	Supporting documents:  OMB A-130 (section 8a6)
	meeting their respective needs.	5 CFR section 1320
B.	Your agency is already required under the Paperwork	0 01 11 00001011 1020
	Reduction Act to manage information collections from the	
	public or State and local governments (including website surveys or questionnaires) in the manner prescribed in	
	OMB's guidance in 5 CFR section 1320. For additional	
	information see:	
	http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_99/5cfr1320_99.	
_	html	
<b>5.</b> A.	Search public websites You are already required under OMB Circular A-130 to assist	Categorization of Information: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6p.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6p.shtml</a> Lava coords and coords that devides that the content of the coords and coords that the coords are content or coords and coords that the coords are content or coords and coords are content or coords.
Λ.	the public in locating government information.	<ul> <li>Have search and search standards: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3f.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3f.shtml</a></li> <li>Use standard metadata: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3g.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3g.shtml</a></li> </ul>
B.	You must now ensure your agency's principal public website	Provide appropriate access to data: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3d.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3d.shtml</a>
	and any major entry point include a search function.	Inform audiences of website changes:
	However, agencies may determine in limited circumstances	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req3h.shtml
	(e.g., for small websites) site maps or subject indexes are more effective than a typical search function.	
C.	By December 31, 2005, this search function should, to the	Supporting documents
	extent practicable and necessary to achieve intended	<ul><li>A-130 (section 8)</li><li>E-Gov Act of 2002 (Section 207 (f))</li></ul>
	purposes, permit searching of all files intended for public use	E-007 Act of 2002 (Gection 207 (1))
	on the website, display search results in order of relevancy to	
	search criteria, and provide response times appropriately equivalent to industry best practices.	
D.	By December 31, 2005, agency public websites should to the	
J.	extent practicable and necessary to achieve intended	
	purposes, provide all data in an open, industry standard	
	format permitting users to aggregate, disaggregate, or	

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E.	otherwise manipulate and analyze the data to meet their needs.  Agencies should note the Interagency Committee on Government Information has provided to OMB recommendations for organizing, categorizing, and searching for government information. By December 17, 2005, OMB will issue any necessary additional policies in this area.		
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<b>6.</b> A.	Use approved domains Your agency must use only .gov, .mil, or Fed.us domains unless the agency head explicitly determines another domain is necessary for the proper performance of an agency function.	<ul> <li>Use Government domains: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1a.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1a.shtml</a></li> <li>Show U.S. sponsorship: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1b.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req1b.shtml</a></li> <li>Supporting documents</li> <li>GSA policy on domains</li> </ul>	
В.	This requirement recognizes the proper performance of agency functions includes an obligation for clear and unambiguous public notification of the agency's involvement in or sponsorship of its information dissemination products including public websites. It also recognizes in certain limited circumstances other domains may be necessary for the proper performance of an agency function.	DOD policy on domains	
7.	Implement security controls	Establish security protocols to protect information:	
B.	Your agency is already required to implement security policies in OMB Circular A-130, Appendix III; OMB memorandum M-04-25, "Reporting Instructions for the Federal Information Security Management Act and Updated Guidance on Quarterly IT Security Reporting;" National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication 800-44, "Guidelines on Securing Public Web Servers;" and other associated guidance from NIST. For additional information see: <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a130/a130trans4.html">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a130/a130trans4.html</a> , <a href="http://csrc.nist.gov/policies/FISMA-final.pdf">http://csrc.nist.gov/policies/FISMA-final.pdf</a> , <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy04/m04-25.pdf">http://csrc.nist.gov/policies/FISMA-final.pdf</a> , <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy04/m04-25.pdf">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy04/m04-25.pdf</a> , <a "guidelines="" 800-44="" 800-44,="" act="" and="" csrc.nist.gov="" federal="" fisma-final.pdf<="" for="" fy04="" guidance="" href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memorand&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6b.shtml  Supporting documents  OMB Circular A-130, Appendix III http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a130/a130trans4.html  OMB memorandum M-04-25, " http:="" information="" institute="" instructions="" it="" m04-25.pdf="" management="" memoranda="" national="" nistpubs="" of="" omb="" on="" policies="" public="" publication="" publicatoins="" quarterly="" reporting="" reporting"="" securing="" security="" servers"="" sp800-44.pdf="" special="" standards="" technology="" th="" the="" updated="" web="" www.whitehouse.gov=""></a>		
<b>8.</b> A.	Protect privacy Your agency is already expected to protect the privacy of information about members of the public by continuing to	Implement privacy requirements: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6a.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6a.shtml</a> Supporting documents	
	in an annual control of the part of the pa	_ californing againments	

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implement OMB Circular A-130 Appendix I and OMB	OMB Circular A-130 Appendix I
memorandum M-03-22, "OMB Guidance for Implementing the	OMB memorandum M-03-22, "OMB Guidance for Implementing the Privacy
Privacy Provisions of the Egovernment Act of 2002." For	Provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002"
additional information see:	http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/m03-22.html
http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/m03-22.html	E-Government Act of 2002
9. Maintain accessibility	Provide access for people with disabilities:
A. Your agency is already required to ensure accessibility for	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6c.shtml
individuals with disabilities by implementing Section 508 of	Provide access to people with limited English proficiency:
the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. 794d). Federal agency	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/reg6f.shtml
public websites must be designed to make information and	Provide common access to a broad range of visitors:
services fully available to individuals with disabilities. For	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/reg3a.shtml
additional information see: <a href="http://www.access-">http://www.access-</a>	
board.gov/index.htm	Supporting documents
B. Your agency is already required to provide appropriate	The Access Board: http://www.access-board.gov/index.htm
access for people with limited English proficiency by	Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for People with Limited
implementing Department of Justice guidance for Executive	English Proficiency" http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/cor/Pubs/eopqa.htm
Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for People with	DOJ guidance on Executive Order 13166:
Limited English Proficiency." Agencies must determine	http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/cor/Pubs/lepga.htm
whether any individual document on their Federal agency	
public website(s) requires translation. For additional	
information see: http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/cor/Pubs/lepqa.htm	
10. Manage records	Comply with records management: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6j.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6j.shtml</a>
A. You are already required to meet records management	
requirements by implementing OMB Circular A-130 and	Supporting documents
guidance from the National Archives and Records	A-130: <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a130/a130trans4.html">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a130/a130trans4.html</a>
Administration. See 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR),	
Parts 1220-1238). For additional information see:	
http://www.archives.gov/records_management/index.html	
Additional Laws related to federal public websites	Examples of how to implement the Government Paperwork Elimination Act:
A. Government Paperwork Elimination Act requires, when	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6i.shtml
practical, agencies must use electronic forms, electronic	Guidance on Digital Rights, Copyright, Trademark, and Patent Laws:
filing, and electronic signatures to conduct official business	http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6k.shtml
with the public.	Restrictions on Lobbying: <a href="http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6n.shtml">http://www.firstgov.gov/webcontent/req6n.shtml</a>
B. Digital Rights, Copyright, Trademark, and Patent Laws	
require agencies that duplicate information available from the	Supporting documents
private sector to protect property rights and to review content	Government Paperwork Elimination Act
to determine if it is subject to international copyright laws.  C. Federal public websites may not be used for direct or indirect	http://www.archives.gov/records_management/policy_and_guidance/electronic_sign
lobbying.	ature_technology.html
iobbying.	Digital Millennium Copyright act: <a href="http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-">http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-</a> This formation and the property of the prop
	bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=105_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ304.105.pdf
	Copyright law: <a href="http://www.copyright.gov">http://www.copyright.gov</a> Light law: <a href="http://www.copyright.gov">http://www.copyright.gov</a>
	U.S. Trademark Law: <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/eb/offices/tac/tmlaw2.html">http://www.uspto.gov/eb/offices/tac/tmlaw2.html</a>
	U.S. Patent Law, U.S. Code 35, Chapter 26: <a href="http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-">http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-</a>

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ONIB FOILCY	implementation Guidance
	<pre>bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_use&amp;docid=Cite:+35USC261</pre>
	"Prohibition of Lobbying," Title 18, Section 1913 U.S.C