DISA

Defense Information Systems Agency
Department of Defense

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DISA and OSSI Launch Formal Collaboration of Federal IT System

ARLINGTON, Va – Defense Information Systems Agency announce today that a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with Open Source Software Institute, one that will pave the way for collaboration and partnerships between the federal government, non-profit organizations, academia and industry to research and develop cutting-edge software for users in DoD, governments at all levels and the public.

The CRADA focuses on release of an open source version of DISA's internally developed Corporate Management Information System. CMIS is a web-based federal workforce management and administrative software suite with nearly 50 applications and tools to manage human resource, training, security, acquisition and related functions for more than 16,000 DISA users worldwide "CMIS is a core product within the DISA's IT systems," said Jack Penkoske, Director of Manpower, Personnel and Security. "We have a lot invested in CMIS and many other government agencies want to adopt it. Why not let them, using the CRADA and an open source model? And why not also open it to industry, academia, and the Open Source community? This approach not only lets them use CMIS but also lets us leverage their good ideas and modifications to improve DISA's system, and we believe this will be a win-win for all involved."

The announcement was made during a presentation at the National Security Agency and DISA Technology Transfer Showcase hosted at the John Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Md. The event featured executives from both agencies who provided insights into their latest technologies made available for licensing through Technology Transfer programs.

The Defense Information Systems Agency is a Department of Defense combat support agency and provides real-time information technology (IT) and communications support to the President, Vice President, Secretary of Defense, the military Services, and the Combatant Commands. From its Arlington, Va., headquarters and through worldwide field activities, DISA offers IT services and capabilities that enable our nation's military to accomplish their missions.

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