

The Federal Science Repository Service (FSRS): Supporting Access to Agency Collections

Don Hagen, National Technical Information Service

June Crowe and Annette Olson, Information International Associates

Grey literature, images, videos, and more represent the mission and work of an agency, but preserving and creating access to these resources can pose challenges in funding, design, and maintenance. The National Technical Information Service (NTIS) has formed a Joint Venture with Information International Associates (IIa) to develop the Federal Science Repository Service (FSRS). The FSRS develops user-friendly, standards-based repositories that promote preservation, interoperability, and increased access.

The underlying infrastructure of the FSRS allows either hosting of resources via NTIS or access to resources housed at agencies. The FSRS, however, also provides a variety of data models and security, access control, and other components to choose from. These, along with the interface front-end, result in a Repository tailored to an agency's needs. And, with multiple agencies participating in the FSRS, development costs of any new, common tools and services can be shared.

Two FSRS repositories demonstrate different benefits of this service. The new design of the National Technical Reports Library (NTRL) will be released in early 2012, and demonstrates the large numbers of resources that the FSRS can hold securely, as well the breadth of search and display tools available. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is utilizing the FSRS to create a special collection of resources – the Deepwater Horizon Repository, based on 1) the FSRS “Core” metadata schema that allows resources to be tied together from diverse programs and agencies; and on 2) flexible access control mechanisms.

The FSRS design allows communities to preserve, enhance, and share their data and information in a flexible manner that meets agencies' needs.

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Existing knowledge

Grey literature and other documents, images, videos, and more represent the mission and work of an agency, but preserving and creating access to these resources can pose challenges in funding, design, and maintenance.

Increased Access through the FSRS

The mission of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) is to promote progress by serving as the U.S. Federal Government's central means of making scientific and cutting-edge information perpetually and widely available.

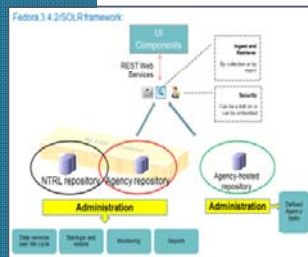
To help agencies preserve and increase access to their resources, NTIS has formed a Joint Venture with Information International Associates (IIA) to develop the Federal Science Repository Service (FSRS).

The FSRS develops user-friendly resource repositories that:

- Are durable against technology changes, yet flexible
- Are based on standards
- Promote interoperability
- Promote further use of an agency's content
- Support open government initiatives
- Support preservation and long-term access
- Can be tailored to an agency's needs

The common, underlying infrastructure allows hosting and preservation of resources via NTIS, or access to resources housed at agencies.

The FSRS provides a variety of data models and of security, access control and other components, offering flexibility in design.



Federal Science Repository Service

Repository Development

The first two FSRS repositories will come online by early 2012, including the latest version of the **National Technical Reports Library (NTRL)**, consisting of 2+ million metadata records for federally funded technical reports and almost 700,000 objects.

The robust database and interface can be tailored for different audiences, resources, metadata and agency missions.

Tools like filtering and hyperlinking increase precision and flexibility in discovering results.

The FSRS enhances resources by supporting links to related resources – inside or outside the repository.

More tools like RSS feeds and geospatial search are being added.

With multiple agencies participating in the FSRS, development costs of new, common tools and services can be shared.

Special Collections

The FSRS allows agencies to create Special Collections across repositories.

- » A "FSRS Core" metadata schema, mapped to the agency's metadata, supports interoperability.
- » Flexible access control mechanisms allow agencies to designate resources as open access, internal use only, or to be shared with other repositories or agencies.
- » Agencies can partner to showcase overarching collections within specially designed interfaces.

Example - the NOAA Deepwater Horizon Repository

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is utilizing the FSRS to create the Deepwater Horizon Repository – a collection of documents, images, videos, maps, and other resources from multiple NOAA programs and other agencies around the oil spill.



New Frontiers

The FSRS design allows communities to preserve, enhance, and share their resources. Each repository and special collection provides new ways to discover and explore Federal science data and information.

For questions about the Federal Science Repository Service contact:

National Technical Information Service
Bill McGahey, Communications Contact Center
Phone: 703-605-6588
bmgahey@ntis.gov