Exchange Network – Network Technology Board

EN Phase 2 Assigned Topics

The following Phase 2 action items were assigned to the NTB during the ENLC/NTB face-to-face meeting in June. This sequencing reflects potential dependencies between these items and is subject to change.

*General Topics from the June face-to-face Meeting:*

* As states and Tribes begin to develop/acquire new systems the Network needs to ensure that they are following relevant specifications and standards.
  + Need to ensure the all guidance documents are current.
  + Identify any gaps in the existing documentation.
  + Create language states and tribes can include in their RFPs to guide developers as they are creating designs for in-house/vendor systems will easily integrate with existing technology.
  + Add the NTB to the current ENLC workplan.
  + Act as subject matter experts on relevant IPTs. ENLC is the group responsible for liaison to programs and the Technology Board is the body responsible for providing input/support on programmatic IPTs.
* Review the REST guidance and discuss options to expand/modify documentation to redefine into an API standard.
  + Identify other agencies and organizations that have API standards to use as examples.
    - The US Dept. of Labor, howto.gov, data.gov, benbalter.com
    - Ohio water data from labs to SDWIS via API
    - CMD Portal for KS, IN, LA, NY (state and private labs submit and retrieve lab data)
  + Develop recommendations to the ENLC on the integration of metadata into existing standards/structures.
  + How should schema design rules and conventions be leveraged to help define services?
  + Review and provide feedback to the EPA Open Data policy
  + Identify implementation strategies for API Standard
* Develop an EN Network Architecture Diagram
* Establish a strategy for promoting EN tool development and use/reuse.
  + The Network would benefit from a communication plan for tools and their potential approaches.
    - Developer centric website (already exists but should be reviewed)
    - E.g., RCS, ENDS
  + Why are there so many discovery oriented tools? Is there one that might be the “best”?
* Begin discussions on the adoption of mobile application standards for the Network – what standards are necessary? How are those communicated to broader audiences? What tools should be made available to developers to encourage mobile app development where appropriate?
  + Table transfers using the EN (examples?)
    - OEI Nation-wide pilot using tablets for SPCC inspections
    - Region 1 is using GPS and camera technology on tablets
    - Ability to write/sign/print permit issues while on-site, etc.
* Identify potential demand for centralized services and identify hosting and adoption strategies.
  + What does the demand for a particular service look like? What level triggers the development of an IPT or other discussion group to begin to dive into the details of service development?
  + How are recommendations made to CDX (or ECOS to host if appropriate)?
  + Identity Management may be a good place to start.

*Draft Phasing of Action Items through the end of 2013:*

**July/August 2013**

* Begin to review current technical guidance available on the EN Website.
  + Update references to NOB/NTG to NTB and ensure consistency across documents.
* Discuss options for modifying the REST Services guidance to incorporate an API standard.
  + Identify other agencies and organizations that have API standards
* Provide NTB members a quick overview of the connections between the E-Enterprise Initiative, the ENLC, and NTB (outline potential roles/responsibilities).
* Review the current EN Architecture Diagram and identify any gaps. Begin to develop updated diagram.

**August /September 2013**

* Begin to assess demand for centralized services – identify any obvious services as a starting point and develop process for introducing NTB recommendations to CDX.
* Outline recommended changes to REST Guidance and identify small group of NTB members to draft changes for NTB review/discussion.
* Identify any gaps in the current documentation on the EN website for tool/application developers. Assign IPTs as necessary to develop/update documentation.
  + Update the FCD for SRS
* Begin to draft an outline for the tools and implementation communications plan. Work with the Communications IPT to ensure consistent language with broader outreach/communication documents.
* Discuss SDWIS/AFS Support and potential IPT development

**September/October 2013**

* Mobile Application development – begin to define needs for the Network.
* Continue to update REST guidance (prepare final drafts for discussion at October face-to-face).
* Finalize the draft communications package for Network tools and implementation.

Face-to-face Meeting Oct 16th and 17th

* Identify any initial tasking from the E-Enterprise Governance Group (expected to begin in September)
* Review the recommended changes to REST guidance and develop final recommendations for an API Standard.
* Review mobile application development recommendations and finalize for review by the ENLC

**November-December 2013**

* Identify any final documents that need to be prepared for the February National Meeting.
* Collect feedback from the ENLC on proposals for:
  + RESTful Services Documentation Updates/API Standard development
  + Mobile application standards strategy for the Network
* Collect feedback from CDX on process to identify potential services where there is a high demand for centralization.