



vision

“Building the Community of Chief Architects”

New Chief Architects Forum

July 10, 2007

USDA Graduate School



Peer Support

What are the topic area(s) you are hoping to learn from your peers?

- Engaging the business and executive leadership.
- Strategies for regular and continued engagement by the business communities in EA.
- Approaches to calculating auditable EA results including performance improvements.
- EA measures of effectiveness.
- EA outreach – how to make it successful. Foundation for measuring EA value in program areas.



Peer Support

- Info sharing – EA best practices for establishing architectures, driving the same into programs, and demonstrating results.
- Program engagement models – models and cost to proactively engage and return on that investment.
- SOA – Will it deliver real benefits to agencies? The SOA business case...; Implementation barriers and solutions; Measuring the benefits; Cultural obstacles...
- Pain points for Chief Architects.
- CIO/CEA/Cxx collaborative visioning.
- Identity and Access Management.



Peer Offerings

What are the topic area(s) you see yourself offering your peers?

- Federated and segmented EA.
- How to develop business-driven segment architectures.
- Embedded architects, Portfolio management, simplifying EA.
- Segment architecture processes and how to integrate into current efforts.
- Effective communications plans and effective ways to show the ROI on architectures.



Cross-cutting Challenges

What cross-cutting challenge(s) do you see value in pursuing in a forum like this one?

- Defining the value of EA to the point of having standard measures of that value.
- Developing a Federal EA with a Federal governance process.
- Knowledge of segment architectures under development in other agencies aimed at possible re-use.
- Knowledge of supporting EA tools used at other agencies and lessons learned from integrating EA artifacts with CPIC, Solution Architecture and Project Management tool sets.
- Reducing IT diversity vs procurement dictates for competition



Cross-cutting Challenges

- Creating management views of EA data for decision making purposes.
- How do we foster better collaboration between agencies from an architecture perspective?
- Establishing an approach to connect the Federal CIOs and Chief Architects, with CFOs and strategies to determine how Federal integration and investment decision making can be institutionalized.
- Determining approaches other agencies use to address EA with agency heads (Secretary's and Dep. Secs, CFOs).
- EA CPIC integration sharing opportunity.



Pitfalls

What pitfall(s) do you see stopping a forum like this from realizing its potential?

- Talking about things, writing papers, pontificating philosophically but providing nothing implementable
- Lack of active participation.
- Fear of sharing failures from a "lessons learned" perspective for fear of additional federal oversight on key agency projects.
- Participation limited to those who can take away time from the urgent daily needs (i.e. have adequate federal staff to handle those needs).
- Lack of time to devote to meetings and work activities.



Future Success and Value

Twelve months from now, what does success look like in terms of your participation and value received?

- We have a Federal governance process in place and the beginning of a Federal EA.
- Access to relevant, up-to-date, best practices in EA to foster federal re-use.
- Leadership is consistently using the EA to assist in decision making ...
- Share lessons learned in how to make architecture useful in organizations. Build common understanding of where we are trying to take EA in the federal sector and how to leverage what each other has done to date.



Next Steps

Where do we go from
here?