Becker, Rick

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http://nitc.ne.gov/standards/comment/20080910/1-205_DRAFT_comment.html

My response is simply, "Its about time!".

Systems that should have been implemented at an enterprise level have not because of a funding model that required government entities with like needs to come together and fund the project.

That philosophy is nice in principle, but a disaster in practicality. That model only works if the timing is right and all the "government entity stars" align themselves to come together and fund the startup of such efforts. If one government entity had the vision to see a need, but others at that level did not, then that entity had to foot the startup costs completely. For that reason government entities have picked solutions that they could afford but were not scalable to an enterprise level. Then when the next entity had a need another solution was created.

Over my 13+ years in state government I have only participated in one collaborative project where more than one entity came together to fund the startup. That project was the current state government enterprise e-fax system.

NWCC in its re-engineering analysis of its systems recognized the need to have electronic fax for both outbound and inbound if it was ever going to meet the goal of being paperless efficiently (i.e. that is not scanning paper). At the same time bio-terrorism was the big issue and funds were available to then HHSS. The two government entities came together along with the OCIO and funded the startup costs for the system and turned it over to the OCIO for management and marketing.

I have also participated in failed efforts, such as back a number of years where there was an attempt to get into enterprise content management (document management, capture, etc.). Now there are a number different document/content management systems in different entities.

I hope that the NITC has the information, wisdom, and vision to now identify the enterprise projects and the will to move them forward.

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