The Future Digital System- A world class system for managing official Government content, which will verify and track versions, assure authenticity, preserve content, and provide permanent access.

GPO

Roadmap to the Future

GPO

CONTENT-CENTRIC GPO

Moving GPO to a Content-Centric Model from a Print-Centric Model

The Government Printing Office is transforming from a print-centric agency to one that delivers Federal information products and services from a digital platform. The Future Digital System (FDsys) will enable GPO to manage content in digital form.

FDsys will support access, apply version control, and preserve authentic digital content, while enabling users to receive that content in the format or delivery channel they desire.

Background

In the mid nineties, GPO began making the *Congressional Record*, Congressional Bills, *Federal Register*, and *Code of Federal Regulations*, and other Federal publications, available online through *GPO Access*. Most of the information on *GPO Access* is a by-product of the printing process, but in a content-centric future these relationships will change. GPO will employ an integrated systems architecture that manages digital content, and print products will be one of many delivery options.

GPO Systems Architecture

GPO's enterprise systems architecture is being established in alignment with GPO's strategic plan to meet the needs of all business units by concentrating the agency's portfolio management to create systems for business information, digital production, and content management.

Systems Overview

Business Information Systems	Content Management System (FDsys)	Digital Production Systems
Financial Data, Human Resources	Content, Metadata, Access, Preservation	Digital Printing, Digital Media

A Content-Centric Digital Environment

In a content-centric digital environment, it is essential for GPO to have flexible systems that will
- automate many of the electronic content lifecycle processes,
- streamline GPO's business processes, and
- deliver content in formats suited to our customers' needs.

In October 2004, GPO documented its concept of the system the FDsys Concept of Operations document, and in May 2005 GPO released a preliminary Requirements Document. The ConOps and Requirements Document focused on high-level user requirements and what the system needs to do, not how it is going to do it.

MI Procurement

On April 4, 2006, GPO issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a master integrator (MI) or prime contractor who will work collaboratively with GPO to develop FDsys. The ultimate objective for the MI will be to create the system design and development and then integrate various components, technology, and applications that support FDsys functions, and subsequently deliver a system that meets the requirements expressed by GPO and our users.

GPO received responses to the RFP for the FDsys Master Integrator (MI) on May 24th and is now in the process of evaluating the proposals based on the evaluation factors stated in the RFP. GPO's evaluation and award process will be based on best-value principles, and an award will be made to the responsible and technically acceptable offeror whose proposal provides the greatest overall value to GPO, price and technical factors considered. GPO expects to award the MI contract by the end of July, 2006.

Systems Integration

FDsys is a metadata-intensive system, and the Integrated Library System (ILS) is expected to be used in FDsys to support the creation, maintenance, and dissemination of descriptive metadata. The ILS will describe and locate all in-scope publications whether tangible or digital, while FDsys manages digital content. A cross-functional team from the Office of the Chief Technical Officer, Information Technology and Systems, and Library and Content Management Service are collaborating to integrate the ILS with FDsys. Recent accomplishments include data conformity testing and a systems security evaluation of the ILS X-server. The team has identified a series of next steps and action items to progress toward a full integration of the systems.

FDsys Outreach

The Program Management Office (PMO), which is dedicated to delivering the Future Digital System, has been working on a series of initiatives to engage customers and capture feedback.

Library Presentations

PMO presented "A Day in Your Life with the FDsys" at the spring 2006 Depository Library Council meeting. This presentation gave the audience a better sense of what FDsys will do, and is available at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/proceedings/06spring/dayinfdsys.pdf. An updated and enhanced version of this presentation will debut this summer.

Agency Customers

To ensure that FDsys meets the needs of it wide customer base, the PMO staff have met with numerous legislative and executive branch customers. The purpose of these meetings has been to communicate FDsys technical and business activities, and to refine customer expectations and requirements for FDsys. Meetings have been held with legislative customers including the Congressional Research Service, Law Library of Congress, Government Accountability Office, Office of the Clerk of the House, and the Office of the Secretary of the Senate. Meetings have also been held with executive branch customers including the Departments of Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Homeland Security, Treasury, Forest Service and Environmental Protection Agency. Presentations on FDsys have been provided to the Capitol Hill Webmasters, the Section 508 compliance community, and the Web Content Managers Forum, additional presentations are being planned. These meetings have been productive and have yielded information that will enhance both the submission and access components of FDsys.

Discovery & Harvesting

GPO's automated harvesting pilot project of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Web site continues. The goal of the pilot is to learn about available methodologies and technologies for automated Web discovery, assessment, and harvesting of publications within scope of GPO's information dissemination programs.

The results and findings of the pilot will be used as a first step in developing more specific requirements and specifications for the overall harvesting solution that will be implemented in conjunction with FDsys.

The two vendors involved in the pilot project have completed their first crawl and harvest of EPA publications, the results of which have been analyzed by GPO.

Complete results from one of the vendors reveals that the harvester has identified and harvested over 12,000 publications deemed to be in-scope by the technology.

Overall, GPO's assessment has revealed an error rate in harvester scope determination of about 50%, meaning that the scope determination made by the harvester has been incorrect on approximately half of the publications harvested. While this number is higher than originally expected, many errors have been identified by GPO and the vendors that can be easily corrected through modification of rules.

Both vendors are now re-configuring the rules and instructions to conduct the second crawl for the second of three crawls to take place during the pilot. The second crawl will be completed by the end of June.