Whitemarsh
Information Systems Corporation

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Website Announcement

Whitemarsh Information Systems Corporation
2008 Althea Lane
Bowie, Maryland 20716
Tele: 301-249-1142
Email: mmgorman@wiscorp.com
Web: www.wiscorp.com

Greetings:

There are five items in this February 2007 announcement:

- Advances in the U.S. Army Data Interoperability Program
- Data Interoperability Community of Interest Handbook
- Strategy for Successful Development of Information Systems Book
- Whitemarsh Metabase version 6.9.1
- The Short Paper Series addition

The Office of the CIO of the United States Army has accelerated its efforts to effect data interoperability across the Army including both data interoperability and enterprise-wide, end-to-end data semantics traceability. This effort, led by LTC Cliff Daus and Ronald Bechtold (Senior Executive) began with a one-day meeting of the ADHIWG (Army Data Harmonization Integration Working Group) in January.

Whitemarsh participated in this effort by constructing and delivering a two-hour tutorial on Data Interoperability and Traceability. The presentation is available upon request from Whitemarsh (whitemarsh@wiscorp.com). The Army also created two charters, one for the data management Center of Excellence (Center of Excellence), and the other for the ADHIWG. The COE is to provide Army-wide data management assistance to achieve data interoperability and traceability. Whitemarsh is honored to have its overall data interoperability framework as a key element in Army policy and its infrastructure.

The Data Interoperability Community of Interest Handbook was finished, published and is available either from the Whitemarsh website, or from Amazon. On Amazon, "search" for Michael M Gorman. The table of contents and the first chapter are posted on the Whitemarsh website at: Wiscorp.com/dicoihb.pdf. Organizations that have purchased the book are deep in engineering their data interoperability programs and establishing their communities of interest. A new book, Strategy for Successful Development of Information Systems, is nearing completion. The table of contents and the first chapter of this book have been posted. The link is: wiscorp.com/ssdis.pdf. While this book stands alone, it also serves as a next-level detailed methodology for communities of interest as they create interoperable information systems. It's not enough to just know how to engineer a community of interest and bureaucratically operate one, you also have to know how to create the shared-data information systems critical to success. This book fills that need. Whitemarsh also has a complete data interoperability workshop that can be employed within your organization.

Metabase version, 6.9.1 is released and is described in the ReadMe that is on the Whitemarsh website. The new capabilities of the 6.9.0 metabase release is described in the October 2006 news letter. This new version fixed several problems that had surfaced. Additionally, 6.9.1 implemented a data model cloning process. This new process enables you to take an already created specified (conceptual), implemented (logical), or operational(physical) data model and

clone it. Once cloned you can then make necessary changes so that you can have two or more variations of the same model in very quick order. This is very valuable in the creation of retail data warehouse models that have some common dimensions but different fact tables.

The last item is the latest edition to the Whitemarsh Short Paper Series: Managing Value Domains. Value domain management is essential to enterprise-wide data interoperability. Included in the paper's overall objective is an enterprise-wide definition and management of value domains, and the mapping between and among value domain values. The paper also addresses the two major ways of implementing value domains. First, the value domain is implemented as a column with a DBMS enforced set of explicit values such that the use of any other value causes an error. Second, through the creation of a table such as Regions that would have a row of data for the New England region and a foreign key that connects the Region table to the Region column. This short paper is located at: Wiscorp.com/sp/sp07.pdf

The complete short paper series publications are still available.

Regards,

Michael M. Gorman
Matthew G. Gorman