



F E D E R A L
S T U D E N T A I D

We Help Put America Through School

Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) Monthly Status Report

**June 1, 2002
through
June 30, 2002**



Support and Efforts

- The FSA Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) initiative provides for the following efforts:
 - Identify and research disruptive technologies, FSA enterprise project topics, and projects that have non-standard technical needs for the AWG agenda and review
 - Coordinate and prepare for all AWG & ASG meetings
 - Maintain the Policies, Standards and Products Guide, the Technology Infrastructure Blueprint document and TIB web site.



Between June 1, 2002 and June 30, 2002 the Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) activities continue to be operational.

Activities: June 1, 2002 – June 30, 2002

Architecture Working Group (AWG) Activities

- Prepared for the AWG meeting scheduled for June 12 and 26. The June 12 meeting was held, while the meeting scheduled for June 26 was postponed due to limited member availability.
 - Presented an update on the status of the Consistent Answers effort to the AWG.
 - Assigned the chair position and time frames to the AWG members.
 - Ensured that the Security Champion included a reference to the Policy, Standards and Products Guide section in the system security assessment instructions.
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Architecture Support Group (ASG) Activities

- Prepared for and conducted an ASG meeting on June 4 to discuss the electronic mass mailing issue and develop recommended enterprise-wide solutions. The working group was assigned research tasks which were used for the basis of the white paper.
 - Completed the Electronic Mass Mailing white paper.
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Technology Infrastructure Blueprint

- Continued building the Technology Infrastructure Database with updated and expanded information. Started development of reports to assist with change management and system administration impact analysis. The database was presented to the ITA/EAI and CSC teams to gather feedback regarding how the TIB could be useful to them.
- Conducted a working session with CSC to familiarize them with the new Technical Infrastructure Blueprint web site.
- Created and distributed awareness posters to promote the use of the TIB web page.



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Activities: June 1, 2002 – June 30, 2002

Although the TIB web site was added to the FSA extranet in the middle of May, the site still was in the top 20 pages viewed and entry points into the extranet.

Category	Ranking	Site	Visits	Overall Site %
Top Pages by Visit	20	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/TIB/	48	0.58%
Top Pages by Views	17	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/TIB/	64	0.29%
Top Documents by Visit	20	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/TIB/	48	0.58%
Top Document by Views	17	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/TIB/	64	0.29%
Top Entry Pages by Visit	13	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/tib/	17	0.91%
Top Exit Pages by Visits	10	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/TIB/	25	1.34%
Top Paths through site by visitor	1. 2. 3.	http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/ http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/ http://www.extranet.sfa.ed.gov/cio/TIB/	14	0.75%



Between June 1, 2002 and June 30, 2002 the Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) activities continue to be operational.

Activities: June 1, 2002 – June 30, 2002 (continued)

Technology Policies, Standards and Products Guide

- The Technology Policies, Standards and Products Guide has been updated to reflect the most recent changes within the organization.
 - New features of the guide include a new executive summary, the addition of Mobile Devices to the Network Services section, External Connections standards added to the External Environment section, planned ITA upgrades, and updates to several version numbers.
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Enterprise Architecture Tool Selection

- Communication with the VDC for implementation and support of the tool was initiated. The VDC has no free servers with Windows NT or 2000 available. An alternative server was identified, which has NT 4.0 and is located at the Department of Education/ ROB 3.
 - Contract negotiations with Ptech have hit several obstacles and an agreement by June 30, when the price quote expires, is unlikely. The alternative choice, Popkin, has been contacted and contract negotiations are in progress. It is probable that Popkin will be the support tool.
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BTA General Improvements

- The AWG orientation documentation is being updated to improve alignment of the business needs with technology. One-on-one meetings with each AWG member will be conducted in July to align member expectations with the work of the group.
- A schedule of meeting dates and locations through September was prepared and sent to each AWG member.



Issues and Risks.

June 1, 2002 – June 30, 2002

Enterprise Architecture Tool is still unknown

- Although FSA has selected Ptech as its first choice of the enterprise architecture tool, it is highly unlikely that the June 30 Ptech deadline will be met.
- It is not known, at this point, the level of effort required to collect and categorize the artefacts, however, it is expected the the first two rows of the modified Zachman Framework will be populated by the end of the fiscal year. The first two rows are : Scope (contextual) and Enterprise Model (conceptual).



Planned activities for next month

July 1, 2002 – July 31, 2002

AWG Support - need to update

- Coordinate and conduct the next meetings (scheduled for July 10, 24)
 - Topics planned to be addressed during subsequent meetings:
 - Electronic Mass Mailing Recommendation
 - Products used for Imaging
 - Content Delivery Network (CDN)
 - Additional topics of enterprise interest could include an overview on wireless use as a selected disruptive technology topics
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ASG Activities Support

- Ongoing coordination and support activities
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BTA Awareness

- Update the AWG Orientation package and review it with the AWG members to reinforce the functional understanding of the group.
- Verifying the attendance of each AWG member.
- One-on-one meetings with each AWG member will be conducted to align member expectations with the work of the group.



Appendices

Appendix I:

- Updated Project Plan for BTA Phase III
- AWG Meeting Materials for June
- ASG Draft Electronic Mass Mailing white paper
- Policies, Standards and Products Guide