

Session

Achieving Transparency Through Technology

Speaker

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I. Greeting/Intro

A. Theme of conference is Doing More With Less

- i) Increasing expectations along with *decreasing* budgets.
- ii) This session is going to show you how Transparency - *through Technology*, represents an opportunity to achieve *much* more with *much* less.

II. What is Transparency?

A. Transparency = Access + Usability

B. Two types to consider: Internal vs. External

- i) Internal Transparency = Behind the firewall (Gov employees)
- ii) External Transparency = In front of the firewall (Public)

C. Solve your Internal Transparency issues and simultaneously solve External Transparency challenge.

D. Internal/ External should be approached as complementary (not adverse) goals

III. Achieving Transparency: The Challenge

A. Is it Access? Not really

B. Is it Usability? Yes

IV. Attempts at Transparency

A. DataSF

B. NYC DataMine

C. Data.gov

V. Attempts at Transparency: Do they meet the definition of transparency?

A. Is the data accessible? Yes, somewhat

B. Is the data usable? No – only “experts” can do anything with it

C. Are Internal/External treated as complementary? No – focus is on external only

VI. The Solution to Internal *and* External Transparency => Data on the Web + Search

A. The Web is the Data Sharing Platform

i) to solve both internal and external transparency

B. Use Standard Protocols for sharing Data on the Web

i) Comma separated values (.csv) as format

ii) “URL’s for Data” as access mechanism

VII. Data on the Web

A. Why .csv?

i) The most basic = the most flexible

B. Why URL’s for Data?

i) Speed, simplicity, and power

C. What can be accomplished with these protocols?

i) Solutions that deliver real Usability & so facilitate Real Transparency

VIII. Conclusion – Takeaways

A. The way to achieve transparency is through Data on the Web

i) Internal and External transparency should be viewed as complementary goals

B. Need standard protocols

i) .csv, URL’s for Data facilitate simple but powerful interfaces

C. This technology can deliver much more for much less

i) New way of experiencing the data

- ii) Answers in seconds instead of hours
- iii) Feedback loop
- D. Call to Action????

IX. Discussion Topics

- A. Open Floor
- B. Who cares about my data?
- C. The DataHugger Phenomenon
- D. Do I need a data warehouse?
- E. Security with Data on the Web
- F. The Myth of Data Integrity