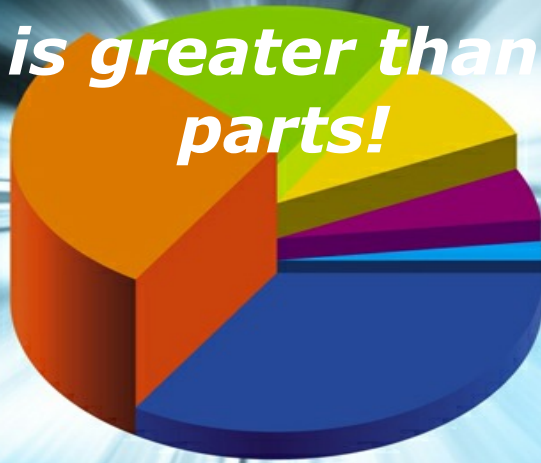


The Journey to Data Integration

The whole is greater than the sum of parts!



**A UKCeB Seminar for
Data/Standards/Management/Integration
Specialists**

28 September 2011

At

BAWA, Filton, Bristol

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AT

www.ukceb.org

UKCeB Members £50, Non-Members £75, MOD Personnel FOC and Exhibition Stand Space available - please contact [Sue Russell](#) for more information.

The Journey to Data Integration -

The whole is greater than the sum of parts!

Today companies buy information systems to support their business processes, e.g. supporting the design process with a CAD system, ERP for planning and controlling material, etc. These are large and complex systems with their own built in data models. In addition business users in their quest for information to support the decisions they have to make typically create their own reports using readily available applications such as Excel or Access; this is often true even when sophisticated business intelligence systems are overlaid on top of the monolithic information systems. The result is that corporate information is dispersed in multitudes of loosely coupled or unconnected databases; some of which are proprietary.

Constructing information from data in different databases through the use various intermediary applications does not create an integrated coherent whole. Efforts to extract, transform and load data into neutral databases are expensive to implement and require ongoing investment to maintain corporate data as applications change. Maintenance of data quality and integrity is therefore a constant battle. Add to this the need for data longevity where data is needed to support products and services for many years; often for longer than the currency of the information system that created it and it is clear that data management is a major challenge imposing a significant ongoing financial burden.

Data and the information that is derived from it is of course a key corporate asset the loss of control over corporate data inhibits companies from realising their investment in information assets with a resultant loss of competitiveness, inefficient business processes and a lost opportunity for innovation.

Changing the focus from the integration of systems to integration of information assets offers a different approach. This requires companies to take a more coherent and holistic view of how their information assets can deliver value to their business. It requires businesses to consider their information requirements without the external constraints that come with use of proprietary data models.

Standards have a big role to play in this approach. But the role they play has to change from an enabler for data exchange processes to supporting controlled Shared Data Environments. While this cannot happen overnight, there is a lot that can be done today to move in this direction.

At this event we will hear about how the MOD is approaching the use of standards as part of the Logistics Network Enabled capability. We will also hear about the challenges faced by the Defence Industry in managing data across a range of contracting models that increasingly see Industry taking on significant risk in managing data when supporting capabilities through life. Kais Al-Timimi from Datamation will introduce his concept of true data integration and how it is different from current approaches. He will take us through the various stages organisations go through as their data integration capability matures. Professor Michael Henshaw from the Loughborough University Systems Engineering Innovation Centre will give us an overview of good practice in data integration in the context of a systems engineering approach. We will then pick up data integration in relation to the MOD System of Systems Approach, (SOSA)

Having heard from the speakers, there will then be an opportunity to ask questions of them as they join in a facilitated discussion. Full schedule below, speakers will be confirmed shortly.

- 09.00 - 09.45 Registration
- 09.45 - 09.55 Welcome and Introduction
- 09.55 - 10.35 The Challenges Industry Face with Data Integration in Through Life support of Capability
- 10.35 - 11.15 Defining the problem through a real case study
- 11.15 - 11.40 Break
- 11.40 - 12.20 A roadmap to Data Integration
- 12.20 - 13.00 The Role of Data Standards in the Defence sector
- 13.00 - 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 - 14.35 Data Integration Good Practice in the context of a Systems Engineering approach
- 14.35 - 15.10 The benefits of Systems of Systems Approach to Data Integration
- 15.10 - 15.40 Facilitated discussion with speakers panel
- 15.40 - 15.50 Closing Remarks