SUCCESS STORY

NIEM enabled DoD to share its architecture data dictionaries in a SINGLE, SIMPLIFIED, INTEGRATED VIEW.

THE CHALLENGE

The Department of Defense (DoD) is the nation’s oldest and largest government agency, with hundreds of thousands of staff members, warfighters, resources, and capabilities. A capability is defined as anything that the warfighter uses to do their job, whether it’s a tank, communications device, or IP service. At DoD, every capability has a requirements document associated with it, and every requirements document has an architecture model and data dictionary to support it. DoD uses an architecture framework to help organize and share the massive amount of information about its capabilities. DoD developed a standard for exchanging this information, but over time the standard became very complex and difficult to use.

THE SOLUTION

Using NIEM, DoD created the Warfighter Mission Area Architecture Federation and Integration Portal (WMAAFIP), an open source, centralized hub for architecture information on all of DoD’s capabilities. NIEM enabled DoD to share its architecture data dictionaries in a single, simplified, integrated view. Now, with information in a standardized structure and format, DoD can analyze and share information more effectively—even as DoD’s capabilities evolve and grow.

THE RESULTS

• NIEM’s reusable terms and definitions and repeatable processes allowed for faster planning, development, and implementation—as well as a cost savings of at least $4 million annually.

• WMAAFIP gives approximately 7,000 DoD staff members a repository of consistent, pre-developed, and adaptable resources to build from and reuse.

• Over 400 DoD organizations now have access, at no cost, to shareable, easy-to-understand information.

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NIEM’S IMPACT

Using NIEM, DoD is able to:

• Improve warfighters’ ability to share mission-critical information.

• Save American taxpayers millions of dollars.

• Serve as a role model for information sharing for other entities within DoD and agencies across the federal government.