Meeting Minutes

Meeting Logistics	
Meeting Title:	MILOPS Domain August 2022 Meeting
Meeting Location:	Microsoft Teams Virtual Conference
Co-Chairs:	Katherine Escobar, Beth Smalley
Secretariat	Lavdjola Farrington
NBAC Liaison	Stephen Sullivan
Date of Meeting: (MM/DD/YYYY)	10 August 2022
Minutes Prepared By:	Tracy L Meyers

Purpose of Meeting
MILOPS Domain Update

Meeting Agenda / Discussion

1. **Opening Remarks**; Beth Smalley, JS J6
   - Ms. Smalley kicked off the meeting by allowing new members to introduce themselves.
2. **USMTF UPDATE,** Rodney McCoy, CIV, JS J6, MILOPS Voting member to the NBAC
   - The USMTF met with the Kessel Run developers on 14 July 2022. If you are not familiar with Kessel Run, they are a SECOPS group trying to get the Air Operations Center into the new millennium, as far as software. They're a group of developers.
   - We're in the middle of trying to modernize USMTF, we're working closely with them; This was a critical meeting in order to get our perspective in front of them so they understand this is a MIL Standard they have been developing without us and we'd like to partner with them to move this thing into the future. We let them know that we're doing NIEM conformance in the U.S. with a parallel effort in NATO. They were very interested in what we're doing because they don't have any ties into NATO as far as development and the operations center.
3. **NTAC UPDATE,** Thomas Carlson, CTR, GTRI

   Common Model Format Status:
   - Metadata now in NIEM is a separate object; there's a separate metadata object. What you do is other objects to which that metadata applies have a pointer to the metadata object. So, in NIEM right now, if you're going to be using metadata, even if that metadata thing is only applying to one object in your exchange, which is often the case, it still needs to be a separate independent object with a pointer to it. And the pointers can be hard. JSON doesn't do pointers like that; references like that. JSON LD does. But a lot of JSON schema people don't even know what JSON LD is. XML schema can do it, but a lot of XML developers don't know about referencing an XML. So, the big decision is to let you stick the metadata in line inside an object
   - We're going to allow augmentation to metadata. If you're not familiar with augmentation, it's a way of taking existing objects and adding new things to it without specializing it. It allows us to have NIEM as a multidomain model where you can put different pieces together. And we're going to allow that in metadata. So, you can also make metadata objects that draw pieces from different domains. We're also going to be dropping some things from augmentation type, because again, with the inlining they're not going to be needed any more. And, they're also going to have to add an NDR rule saying you can only have one augmentation per NIEM space because allowing augmentation in metadata and dropping some of the other stuff will make that easier to just do that. It makes it cleaner.
4. **NBAC UPDATE,** Steve Sullivan, CTR, JS J6 (Co-Chairs Kamran Atri & Thomas Krul)
   - Near-term objectives for the NBAC: Our annual meeting is next week in Rosslyn, Virginia. Wednesday, the 17th, we're having a joint session of the NTAC and the NBAC. One of the topics is the release process. We're looking at it this time because as you're aware NIEM is transitioning to an OASIS Open Project. The path of developing and then producing a release change somewhat underneath OASIS rules. We'll be discussing with

the community what the new release process will look like and work out those details during the meeting.

- After the 17th the NBAC will conduct its portion of the annual meeting. It will be held at the GTRI building in Rosslyn, Virginia. A lot of the activity for the past month has been involved with planning for that event. Some of the things that we've been working on at the NBAC is we drafted a new NIEM open governance document for the NBAC, along with a process diagram for onboarding new domains.

5. **NCDF CWIX 22,** Mark Dotson, CTR, GTRI, JS J6

- This is an update for what we did this past June at an annual event that NATO sponsors called CWIX.

- At its core NCDF is really trying to convince and persuade NATO to adopt the NIEM way of doing business. NIEM is not just a data model, it's a methodology. And a lot of the NIEM methodology we are inserting into the NATO environment through this effort called NATO Core Data Framework, which is why it's called a framework. As we discussed and collaborated with NATO community on NCDF, we quickly discovered we needed to have some sort of capability to prove and showcase that the NCDF way of doing business was useful and valuable. A couple years ago we hit upon the Data Lake concept, commercial industry has been going to Data Lake for years. DoD has begun adopting Data Lake in various communities of interest. So, we found it valuable to create a Data Lake that is based on NCDF and demonstrate how that is valuable in various forums and venues to include one called CWIX.

- CWIX is an annual NATO sponsored event. It is their largest communications and information systems interoperability event.

- Our goals were very targeted at FMN to make sure that NCDF supports the Federated Mission Networking objectives. And were very targeted at testing how our Data Lake interface worked with others to make sure we could consume information from different formats and protocols and make them available to others in a format that they understood natively.

- We were able to consume data in many different formats, put it into the Data Lake and allow users to discover it, or to set up micro-service so that they could consume that information automatically.

6. **OPEN DISCUSSION / CLOSING REMARKS (Beth Smalley)**

- Ms. Smalley opened up the floor to anyone for any last thoughts, questions, or comments.

- I will be sending out a link to the GitHub site so you can get the notes, the meeting minutes, and all the slides.

- A request for all participants from Ms. Escobar. If you're aware of a specific implementation in development, or already deployed and implemented, please let us know. We are constantly being asked, who in the DoD is using NIEM? As all of you are aware, it's not licensed. Unless you tell us, we don't know. So, any insight and input to that would be greatly appreciated.

USMTF Update

Q: When you met with them, did anyone talk to the Kessel Run guys about JADC2?
   (Chip Timme)

A: Absolutely. JADC2 was one of the primary things that we discussed. (Rodney McCoy)

A: To elaborate a bit. We've been very diligent about making sure that it's understood that NIEM is an enabling capability for JADC2. Additionally, we're moving out on tasking to identify data standards. This is under the JADC2 LOE 1 Working Group. More to come. (Katherine Escobar)

NBAC Update

Q: How does OASIS impact CMF? (Chip Timme)

A: Until the transition happens, it doesn't at all. We don't know how it is going to work out, because once the transition to OASIS happens, there's a project manager onboard PGB, that board will call the shots. The idea is that the NTAC will continue to exist as a technical steering committee. The NBAC will continue to exist as a business steering committee. And the current direction of NIEM will just continue. I don't know if that's what will happen. It could be a bunch of new people join and they have a radically different idea and there's enough of them to vote that way and change the direction of NIEM. But as of right now is that CMF, that whole effort should not really change, transition doesn't fully happen until the end of next year with NIEM 6, which is when CMF should be done. I don't think it'll make a change to what's happening with CMF. Hopefully the same people that work on it today, will be the same people working on it generally in the OASIS context and they'll continue going down the same road.

The OASIS stuff is more, to me, more of an organizational change and a big funding change. There will be a big difference in our funding. A somewhat big change in organization. But, the actual technical details, I don't expect a change. At least not in the near future. I just don't anticipate enough rabble rousers coming in and trying to derail the current direction, because even people who are critical of NIEM, especially people critical of NIEM and critical of XML schema are pretty much onboard with moving to CMF; to moving to something that is more technology neutral. (Tom Carlson)

C: The reason why I asked the question is right now I'm facing some increased planning information exchange requirements and I'm trying to get timeframes lined up as to what technologies need to be done and when and how. I'd love for our agency to have a full transition to NIEM, but then if we transition to NIEM, okay now we have to transition to CMF. Then I have to transition to OASIS. And, I'm seeing a big train wreck, that's all. (Chip Timme)

A: Okay, the OASIS part of it is totally separate, if you're going to use NIEM it's not going to matter whether NIEM is run by the Department of Defense, if NIEM is run by DHS, or NIEM is run by DoJ or run by OASIS. On the technical side there is no transition to OASIS that you need to do. This is all on the side of the people who work on NIEM and the people who make NIEM happen. The

OASIS transition should be relatively seamless to developers and agencies that use NIEM, as opposed to those who develop NIEM. So, I don't think the OASIS part is going to cause you a big impact. (Tom Carlson)

NCDF – CWIX 22

Q: JEDI still plays in CWIX and FMN? (chat)

A: JEDI was not at CWIX this past year. I think two years ago they were there. JEDI, I don't know if this is, I think Mr. Conrad is a J4 person, so JEDI was a data centric system developed for the logistics community that we did partner with. They were not there last year though; at CWIX 22.

If they come back again, we'd absolutely love to get information from the JEDI system into our Data Lake. (Mark Dotson)

Q: Is there a CWIX AAR?

A: Yes. So CWIX as a venue, with three hundred and forty capabilities, does publish a final report at the end. It normally takes about three months for NATO to produce that document. We specifically had a team of independent assessors take a look at what we were doing with NCDF and the Data Lake. And they are also producing a report just on NCDF. That report should come out next month. (Mark Dotson)

Action Items *(add rows as necessary)*		
Action	**Assigned to**	**Due Date**
Develop minutes	Tracy / Lavdjola	
Post slides to NIEM website	Aubrey/ Beth	
Publish minutes	Aubrey / Lavdjola	
Send out to Distro USMTF Update slides	Beth	
Send out training schedule to community	Beth	

Next Meeting					
Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	14 SEP 2022	**Time:**	1000-1130	**Location:**	MS Teams

Attendance		
Name	**Organization/Affiliation**	**Purpose**
Eric Ampaw, CTR	USN NCIS	
Kshif Aziz, CTR	USN NCIS	
Paul Bounker, CIV	US Army DEVCOM GVSC	
Tom Carlson, CTR	GTRI	
Chuck Chipman, CTR	GTRI	
Christopher Clements, CTR	USAF ACC HQ CCC/SISA	
Earl Connally, CIV		
Wendy Conner, CIV	USN NCIS	
Michael Conrad, CIV	JS J4	
Ashley Dalisera, CIV	DCSA	
Mark Dotson, CTR	GTRI	
Heather Dziurdzy, CIV	TRANSCOM TCJ6	
Shannon Griffith, CIV	US Army DEVCOM GVCC	
Brian Harrig, CTR	US Army HDQA	
Brian Haugh		
Karen Johnson, CIV	DISASE	
Elaine Lamaster, CIV	USAF ACC A589/A5CA	
Rodney McCoy, CIV	JS J6	
William McGrane, CIV	DISA EIIC William.m.mcgrane.civ@mail.mil	
Fred Nannarone, CTR	DISA/EIIC/OD-1 In Office of the Chief Data Officer	
Makia Powell, CIV	USN NUWC Newport RI	

Attendance		
Name	**Organization/Affiliation**	**Purpose**
Mandana Sattari, CTR	USAF HAF SAF/CDM	
Beth Smalley, CIV	JS J6	
Greg Smith	MDA/CAX	
Steve Sullivan, CTR	JS J6	
Charles (Chip) Timme	MDA	
Lawrence Verrochi, CIV	USAF ACC HQ CCC/SIS	
Marc Visconte, CTR	USN NCIS DC	