Meeting Minutes

Meeting Logistics	
Meeting Title:	MILOPS Domain March 2022 Meeting
Meeting Location:	Microsoft Teams Virtual Conference
Co-Chairs:	Katherine Escobar, Beth Smalley
Secretariat	Lavdjola Farrington
NBAC Liaison	Steven Sullivan
Date of Meeting: (MM/DD/YYYY)	09 Mar 2022
Minutes Prepared By:	Lavdjola Farrington

Purpose of Meeting
MILOPS Domain Updates

Meeting Agenda / Discussion

1. Opening Remarks; Katherine Escobar
   a. Ms. Escobar kicked off the meeting by allowing new members to introduce themselves so we can better understand that everyone who is supporting this domain is representing the best interest of the organization and how we can return the favor to better support the members.

2. Domain Way Forward
   a. MILOPS content will be moving from storing domain content from APAN to GitHub for non-sensitive content. The goal is to make NIEM an open standard. Ms. Smalley presented the GitHub site and showed where currently our MILOPS Domain documents such as minutes are being stored. We are continuing to improve the site and upload MILOPS related documents. **Link to GitHub site**: https://niem.github.io/community/milops/
   b. We will be formalizing the membership for MILOPS Domain. There will be three categories: Change Control Board (CCB), Domain, and Participants. Those members who are part of the CCB will be the voting members and decide on what content changes and updates to the MILOPS Domain model. The CCB members will also be part of the Domain membership and provide support to Domain activities, recruiting, and mentorship to organizations within the domain. The third part of the membership is for those who do not want to be members but would still like to have situational awareness on what is happening with MILOPS. If anyone is interested in becoming an official CCB and/or Domain member, please reach out to us so we can further discuss. We will be consolidating a list for these memberships and we will be asking to formally submit your interest in one of these categories.

3. Joint All Domain Command and Control (JADC2) Minimum Essential Metadata (MEM)
   a. Mr. Chipman briefed the JADC2 MEM to the group. He briefly defined JADC2 and stated that data is key to enabling interoperability across JADC2. The MEM is a limited set of metadata necessary to support the 'must have' functions for any data shared across DoD, Joint, Interagency, and Coalition at the time of 'creation' that will be exchanged. All of DOD, Services, CCMDs, defense agencies are required to use the MEM to achieve a data centric and Zero Trust environment. Organizations or communities can add more than the minimum essential requirements at the time of creation but not less than what the MEM requires.
   b. The MEM enables functions (i.e. Access, Audit, Correlation, Records, Discovery, Protection) aligned with the DoD Data Strategy goals VAULTIS (Visible, Accessible, Understandable, Link, Trust, Interoperability, and Secure).
   c. Mr. Chipman has not been involved in the development of MEM for JADC2 but he is now being brought to the team to look at it from the NIEM MILOPS side. A lot of the information exists in NIEM. The plan for MILOPS is to add the MEM to NIEM 5.2 release.

4. NMO Status
   a. Ms. Escobar provided a quick updated on NIEM Management Office status. We are on a two year transitioning process for NIEM to become an official open standard through the standards body OASIS. As part of the first step for this transition, we started work on the NIEM charter. We are almost done with it and will publish / share soon. After this, our goal is to solicit organizations to sponsor the project. Over the past 20 years, NIEM has been funded by the single organization who was accepted the responsibility for the program. Each organizaiton is a member of the executive steering committee (ESC), and although the original charter specified a shared cost model the implementaton resulted in the managing organization fully funding NIEM. This has resulted in and unstable funding model and created a budget hardship for each of those organizations. Once the transition happens, through OASIS as an open project, NIEM will be properly funded by the

sponsors based on their contribution to OASIS. So this transition will provide a long term sustainable shared financial solution for NIEM.

b. We have launched our virtual monthly training, currently led by Mr. Tom Carlson. As we continue to work on this, our goal is to make the training available through videos that can be conducted on your own time but still be able to reach out to our experts for any inquiries.

c. National Defense University (NDU) has reached out to the NIEM Management Office (NMO) in regards to updating some of their curriculum on topics around interoperability and data centricity. They would like to include NIEM in their curriculum as part of the updates.

5. NIEM Business Architecture Committee (NBAC) Status Update

a. Mr. Sullivan provided a quick update of NBAC, explaining that they coordinate activities between all domains within NIEM and closely manage new domains. Their activities also support the transitioning of NIEM to OASIS. They will be looking at all the charters for each domain and update as necessary. They will be looking at the NBAC standard operating procedures and aligning them with the OASIS standard operating procedures. They also plan to show demonstrations of the Message Exchange Package (MEP) tool in their upcoming monthly meeting.

6. NIEM Technical Architecture Committee (NTAC) Status Update

a. Ms. Medlin covered the current big activities for NTAC which are the Common Model Format (CMF), guidance for NIEM messaging specifications, and NIEM 6 architecture improvements. The purpose of CMF is to support multiple technology like JSON, RDF and developers working with many different models and not just XML. Those that are using NIEM XML can continue using it if they desire to but if they want to transform to another format than CMF can help with that. It is not required to write in CMF but it will be available to write once it the format is ready. Currently they are working the metamodel and CMF version 2, converting NIEM-based XML schema to CMF, and converting CMF to NIEM XML schema documents. For future plans in 2022 they plan to convert CMF to ontology formalism, CMF to JSON schema, CMF to UML Diagrams and UML diagrams to CMF.

b. The lead developers are working on a new simplified guide for the NIEM specification, building a how-to guide on making good specifications. The new name for Information Exchange Package Document (IEPD)s will be NIEM Message Specifications.

c. As for NIEM 6 architecture improvements, changes only happen with major releases which is coming up in 2023. They are working on replacing XML Schema with CMF as the NIEM model representation, simplify or replace metadata attributes, handle ordered, repeated properties. NTAC continues to review their proposals and discussing with NBAC.

7. Restricted Repository was not briefed during this meeting. We will try to reschedule this to the next monthly meeting in April.

8. Closing Remarks

a. Ms. Escobar opened the forum for discussion and questions. The questions that were asked during the meeting are listed below. Emphasized to reach out to MILOPS Domain POC for more information.

Questions, Decisions, Issues

NMO Status update:

Q1. Mr. Ampaw had a question about the IEPD in regards to the new NIEM transition. What is the new content for the IEPds going forward?

A1. Ms. Escobar – We are in the process of rebranding IEPDs to just NIEM message specification. All of the specifications that make up the message, ultimately become part of the standard. NIEM will not be just one standard but a family of standards. As NTAC and NBAC continue to evolve NIEM, changes in what we have defined as the recommended and required content that should go into the message specification could happen but this may happen as a result of advances that we are making in NIEM, not necessarily as part of the transition. The MILOPS Domain is different from most of the other domains because we have restricted content which will be MILOPS property and will be withheld from OASIS. That content will not be part of the open source, which is why we will be leveraging the restricted repository to store that content.

Q2. Mr. Ampaw inquired again about the monthly training and would like to join.

Action Items

Action	Assigned to	Due Date
Develop the MILOPS meeting minutes	Lavdjola Farrington	13 Apr 2022
Follow up with attendees to further collaborate on supporting MILOPS Domain	Domain Stewards	13 Apr 2022
Topics for next monthly meetings	Domain Stewards	13 Apr 2022
Send the Github link to the members	Domain Stewards	13 Apr 2022
Send NIEM Training invite to the members	Domain Stewards	13 Apr 2022

Next Meeting

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	04/13/2022	Time:	1000-1130	Location:	MS Teams

Attendance

Name	Organization/Affiliation	Purpose
Kia Alford	EDQ/DVS	

Attendance		
Name	**Organization/Affiliation**	**Purpose**
Eric Ampaw	NCIS OCD	
Miguel Armada	USAF ACC HQ CCC/CYO	
Dale F Carruth	USAF	Looking to get an introduction to MILOPS.
Jeffery Castro		
Timme Charles	MDA	
Charles Chipman	GTRI	
Kyle Christie	DHA SOLUTION DELIV	
Christina Medlin	GTRI	
Stephen R Conkling	USAF SAF/CN	
Richard Elder	DISA/JITC	
Robert Engelmann	JS J8	
Dolores Fox	NCIS OCD	
Robert Gibbs	USA PEO MS	
David Hardy	JS J6 DSD	
Brian Harrig	USA HQDA DFBA	
Jason Hinson	JAD	
Christopher Johnson	DISA OS	
Karen Johnson	DISA	
Patricia Lee	MCTSSA	
Gilbert Maerina	DCSA	
William Mcgrane	DISA	
Andrew Michalowicz	USN DCNO N2N6	
Gregory Nolder	Secretary of the AF, CDO	
Alexander O'Ree	RDECOM CERDEC Aberdeen	
Makia Powell	NUWC NEWPORT	
Randy Sigmond	DCAA HQ	
Robert Reyling	USAF AFLCMC	
Robert Manning	NG J6	
Rodney Rourk	SPAWARSYSCEN Atlantic	

Attendance		
Name	**Organization/Affiliation**	**Purpose**
Ashar Siddiqui	DCSA	
Kevin Spurin		
Stephen Sullivan	JS J6 DSD	
Paula Talbott	JS J8	