techline

Ask The CIO

MIKE WASH *GPO's Chief Information Officer*

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
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What is the GPO Seal of Authenticity?

Many of the documents available on FDsys , including the recent *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,* contain the GPO Seal of Authenticity. The GPO Seal of Authenticity provides assurance that an electronic document has not been altered since GPO disseminated it. The visible digital signatures on online PDF documents serve the same purpose as written signatures or traditional wax seals on printed documents. A digital signature, viewed through the GPO Seal of Authenticity, verifies document integrity and authenticity of online Federal documents, at no cost to the customer. GPO is currently signing Congressional Bills and Public and Private Laws within FDsys. •

FDsys

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GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys)

FDsys Gets Rave Reviews

GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys), has been operating successfully for three months and the system is getting rave reviews from users. FDsys is a a world-class information management system developed to authenticate, preserve, version, and provide permanent public access to Government information. The system gives the American people a one-stop site to authentic, published government information, while enhancing the searching and browsing capabilities currently found on *GPO Access*. FDsys offers incredible search capabilities for users, such as: searching by Congressional Committee, Congress Member, keyword and date. All of the information available on *GPO Access* is being migrated into FDsys, with more than 154,000 documents currently available on FDsys and additional documents added daily. The migration of data will be completed on a collection by collection basis (i.e. the Federal Register, Congressional Bills, *Congressional Record*) and at present FDsys currently contains eight collections.

These collections include:
- **Compilation of Presidential Documents**
- **Congressional Bills**
- **Congressional Documents**
- *Congressional Record*
- **Congressional Reports**
- *Federal Register*
- **Public and Private Laws**

  The expected completion date to migrate the remainder of the *GPO Access* content to FDsys is mid-2009. After a collection has been migrated, any new content added to that collection is available within both FDsys and *GPO Access*. Prior to the completion of the overall migration effort, FDsys and *GPO Access* will exist in parallel. FDsys is available at **www.fdsys.gov**. GPO welcomes all comments or questions pertaining to FDsys via email at **pmo@gpo.gov**. •

Try it for Yourself
www.fdsys.gov

Give Us Your Feedback
http://fdsys.blogspot.com/
pmo@gpo.gov

"I love it. I think you hit a homerun!"

Barbie Selby
Alderman Library, University of Virginia

GPO Committed to Transparency

In a recent letter to President Barack Obama, GPO's Public Printer, Bob Tapella, detailed how GPO can help implement the White House's transparency and open government agenda. Tapella included five goals and planned actions for the President to review. Those goals are:

1. Goal: Position GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys) as the official repository for Federal Government publications. **Action:** Develop pilot concepts with the Administration's Open Government office.

2. Goal: Enable and support Web 2.0 functionality through FDsys to support public comments on pending legislation. **Action:** Develop a pilot with the Open Government office to evaluate the process to collect comments on selected bills.

3. Goal: Establish a demonstration project to apply Web 2.0 features to rulemaking documents. **Action:** Applying lessons learned, extend the demonstration project to the entire Federal Register on FDsys in a systematic way.

4. Goal: Participate in and lead efforts to standardize electronic publishing formats. **Action:** Meet with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) e-Government and Information Group to develop guidelines for extending StratML to other Federal publication types.

5. Goal: Link the White House's Web site to FDsys for public searches of Government documents. **Action:** Contact and establish a working relationship between GPO's FDsys and the White House Web team. This would include creating a White House/GPO working group/Web team, providing a demonstration of FDsys for the White House Web team, and establishing a recurring meeting with the White House Web team for information exchange.

To view the complete letter, visit:
http://www.gpo.gov/news/2009/03-09-09_OpenGovLtr.pdf.

Major Capabilities by Release

Future releases of FDsys will continue to enhance the capabilities of the system. The major capabilities of FDsys by release are listed below.

Highlights of Release 1
- Search across multiple collections with a single search box
- Faceted search (filters)
- Descriptive and authenticity metadata available in MODS and PREMIS xml files
- A Digital preservation capabilities through manual format migration
- Authenticated documents with digital signatures
- Simple, advanced, and retrieve by citation search options
- Browse government publications
- Search within search results
- Suggested spelling for search terms
- Document in Context feature for Congressional Record, Federal Register and Compilation of Presidential Documents
- Persistent, predictable links
- Contextual help features

Release 2
- Congressional submission of content and jobs (orders)

Release 3
- User notifications for content
- Government agency submission of content and jobs (orders)
- Documented interface (API) to allow search by non-GPO systems
- Capability to ingest converted (digitized) content
- Navigation of relationships between publications
- Delivery by RSS, email, and FTP

Release 4
- Automated digital preservation processes
- Automatically gather information from Federal agency websites (harvest)
- Capability to acquire, integrate, or link content from external sources
- Content recommendations based on user preferences
- Automatically execute saved searches
- Online GPO bookstore interface
- Output metadata in multiple formats, including MARC, ONIX, and ASCII
- Customizable alert services, help features, and search preferences
- Near duplicate detection
- Customizable user interfaces and mobile support

Release 5
- Detailed billing information
- Customizable billing reports
- Tools to support document creation
- Estimating capabilities
- Enhanced job tracking
- Collaborative working environment for content creation
- Ability to interface with Federal agencies' internal procurement systems to transmit orders

an FDsys update

First New Collection on FDsys – Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents

The online Daily Compilation will replace the printed *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*. An archive of the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is available on *GPO Access*. Like its predecessor, the *Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents* will contain formal Presidential orders and statements, remarks at press conferences, messages to Congress, agencies, and foreign leaders, as well as other materials released by the White House Press Secretary. Material appearing in the *Daily Compilation* is edited for accuracy and annotated with additional information to provide an authoritative record of the Presidency. As an FDsys Web publication, the *Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents* will reach a much broader audience and will be updated frequently, as information is released by the White House press office.

In the coming year, GPO and the OFR will launch new web services on FDsys. The *Daily Compilation* is just one aspect of the GPO/OFR partnership's commitment to provide state-of-the-art information services to the American people. •

Public Turns to FDsys for Stimulus Bill

GPO experienced high demand for The American *Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*, more commonly known as the *Stimulus Bill*. The electronic version of the bill was authenticated by digital signature. The digital signature, viewed through GPO's Seal of Authenticity, assures the public that the document has not been changed or altered.

"GPO's Federal Digital System is the place to find authentic government Bob Tapella. "GPO is committed to providing Americans transparency on the workings of their government. Two key elements in managing federal documents on FDsys are versioning and authentication. Versioning lets the user know which version of a document is being presented and it is important when viewing legislation and draft documents. Authentication is necessary to maintain a chain of custody from author to end user." •

What's Coming in Release 2?

Release 2 of FDsys focuses on the submission of content from Congress into FDsys. FDsys will provide Congressional Content Originators with an interface to electronically submit Congressional Bills, letterhead, envelopes, and other ephemeral material to GPO, along with metadata related to the content. FDsys will assemble this content into a submission package for ingest and approval and will perform automatic scope determinations based on the content, metadata, and business process information. Scope determinations may also be made based on the access rights and privileges assigned to the user submitting the content. For example, all Congressional Bills will be automatically considered in-scope based on either the metadata or the permissions given to the person submitting the Bills and content such as letterhead and envelopes will be automatically considered out-of-scope. Designated GPO employees will have access to all content and job information that is originally submitted to FDsys by a Congressional Content Originator, allowing them to create new renditions (i.e. text or PDF formats) of this content and add additional job information. GPO is also able to submit Congressional and Office of the Federal Register content to FDsys which was not originally submitted to FDsys by the content originator. Development on Release 2 is expected to be complete in late-2009. •