



Governance & Standards

...an OCTO strategic focus area influencing MHS culture to embrace speed and responsiveness

Key Benefits

- Ensures that established standards and open modularity drive and constrain designs and decisions
- Recognizes that multiple acquisition paths exist to address different enterprise needs
- Central decision making ensures that stakeholders understand consistent strategic messages and that all are informed regarding requested changes

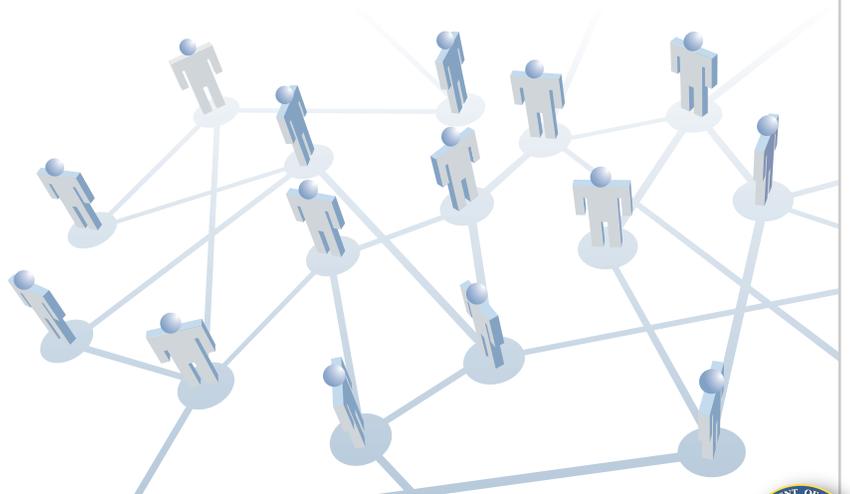
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In a general sense, Enterprise Governance is the integrated set of processes and procedures used by an organization and its stakeholders to control, direct, or strongly influence the actions and conduct of the aggregate organization through the use of policy and/or directives in an agile and collaborative manner.

Through a series of strategic activities, this focus area will strive to:

reduce redundancies within the current governance process, and establish centralized reporting and project restructuring to simplify internal governance and accelerate individual project monitoring

The hope is that a central, collective forum will enhance project transparency, increase collaboration between organizational elements, and overall, increase the project effectiveness. This involves governance of: compliance, security, and risk; strategic alignment and relationship management; requirements and demand management; prioritization and focus; portfolio management and acquisition; business and enterprise architecture; funding, budgeting, and resource allocation; and program management and execution.





KEY ACTIVITIES

While the governance structure currently in place does provide a foundation for further execution of enterprise alignment and service orientation, there are a number of activities that OCTO has planned to streamline decision making and ensure that enterprise strategy is implemented within day-to-day operational activities. In order to accomplish this initiative, the OCTO has outlined the following activities:

Activity #1: Complete MHS Governance Assessment (COMPLETE)

This activity involved completing a review of the MHS governance processes and frameworks and recommending a repeatable enterprise governance modeling framework that ensures the proliferation of SOA throughout the enterprise. Work in support of this activity was completed under the SOE strategic initiative.

Activity #2: Integrate Governance Boards and Establish Central Forum for Enterprise Service Management (UNDERWAY)

As part of its SOE initiative, the OCTO has begun efforts to establish a SOE Governance Center (SOEGC) that will develop the processes, procedures, and guidelines regarding typical activities and initiatives that need to be executed as part of a SOE to enhance organizational efficiencies.

Activity #3: Establish Enterprise Strategic Management Tool (UNDERWAY)

In conjunction with ongoing collaboration efforts surrounding the adoption of an enterprise repository tool, the OCTO is working with MHS stakeholders to determine key strategic questions regarding ongoing projects across the enterprise and then use this information to create a checklist by which to grade projects and initiatives that can be used to populate the MHS strategic planning tool.

Activity #4: Integrate Investment Sequencing into the MHS Governance (UNDERWAY)

Throughout FY12, the OCTO will utilize the investment sequencing initiative in order to facilitate sound business decisions. By FY13, a decision will be made regarding whether the investment sequencing initiative should be implemented as a formal part of the MHS governance process as well as during IM's requirements development and prioritization and PfM's capability 'racking and stacking' for prioritization and funding.

Activity #5: Publish Service Catalog for SOA Services Lookup and SOA Playbook

Responsive and agile business systems are an important maturity attribute to a Level 4 maturity. The OCTO will look to define services via a specification language that unambiguously defines the operations performed by the service, permitting the construction of a catalog of services. This will assist the MHS with reusing the services generated through modeling practice and attaining rapid deployment of functionality,

Activity #6: Conduct an IT Personnel Skills Assessment and HR Planning for SOA Implementation

The OCTO will work with the MHS Human Resource department to address the processes needed for effective recruitment, staff retention, and training to address critical skills requirement.



Through continuous, structured communication and governance oversight, the organization's enterprise architecture is directly affected and aligned, leading to achievement of enterprise program and service management goals and objectives

