

Getting the GIST

Webinar Q & A

Anne Litecky (MD): Are you currently working with crime victim service providers in local or state criminal justice agencies? If no, would you consider this option?

The national District Attorneys Association provides direct representation to Global. We do understand that organizations such as the National Center for Victims of Crime, National Association of Crime Victims Compensation Boards and National Organization for Victims Assistance (NOVA) exist to provide more business input and direction when needed.

Some of the members on the various committees do have state and local crime victim's services and crime victim's compensation background.

The Global Standards Council is working very closely with IJIS right now to build a victim notification services. We would value input and direction on this service specification. It is located at www.globaljusticetools.net.

Bonnie Locke (AZ): Since this was developed with federal dollars, is the source code available?

A great deal of the value of the GIST system is derived from work that is not inherent in the source code. The back end data structures and technology, as well as the tagging that was applied to the documents represent a large portion of the components that make the GIST work. This code was developed for BJA. BJA approval and direction is still needed before it can be made available. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the source code, please e-mail Tammy.

Brian Handspick (NY): To ULEX or not to ULEX? That is the question. Whether tis nobler to suffer the slings and arrows of a WSDL per IEPD, or to take up ULEX against a sea of IEPDs, and by encapsulating exchange them?

LEXS/ULEXS was developed outside of Global for specific purposes. While it may be a good tool to use more broadly, there has been no formal coordination between the team that developed it, and the Global Standards Council. So we encourage implementers to be diligent in researching the use of these standards, and that the GSC is happy to collect feedback on implementers' preferences and issues using these tools in conjunction with Global products so we can provide better guidance in the future.

Debi Peters (WI): We are embarking on an effort to improve data sharing and matching between the Department of Corrections and Department of Justice. Any advice on making this a success would be appreciated.

GLOBAL has a number of data quality products available. We would encourage you to access the GIST and locate these products for guidance in this area.

Jerry Floyd (CA): What is Global Reference Architecture?

More information can be found about the GRA at the following URL <http://www.it.ojp.gov/gra>.

Michael Clark (MI): Is this all "global" in scope? What about state/regional/community application? Will this initiative help to knock down information silos and bridge turf-wars among community agencies who should all be working together with court-mandated clients?

Not sure what you mean about all Global in scope? Global is a federal advisory body to the US DOJ. All products built by Global will eventually added to the GIST.

What about state/regional/community application? Global provides many supporting products to the federal, state, local and tribal agencies. The whole purpose of the Global effort is to provide interoperability.

Will this initiative help to knock down information silos and bridge turf-wars among community agencies who should all be working together with court-mandated clients?

In part yes. The GIST is one of many items that Global has developed to help in this goal. Global itself continues to make adjustments to address many of the barriers to information sharing (technical, legal, political, will issues)

Mike Clark (webinar attendee): Silo busting of information between agencies. All want info but few want to share. How can communities increase info sharing about cases held in common? Are there conferences upcoming in the US that are germane to this topic?

IIS Institute Briefing in July (www.ijis.org) and the National Forum (www.national-forum.net and www.ncja.org).

Does GIST pertain to community helping agencies sharing info with each other via the internet?
Yes, this is precisely what GIST is designed to address. Other resources are available at www.jispnet.org

Is this a macro approach or does this apply to community agencies communicating about cases with each other?

The GIST is a macro approach to the Global Products. The specific global product(s) may provide more value to community agencies communicating with each other. The GSP will definitely provide value if you are looking for national interoperability.

Who (what person or organization) could be a point of contact for agency sharing of case information here in the USA?

Brand Niemann (NY, bniemann@cox.net): Does anyone know of a Justice domain (Courts, Prisons, Offender Management, Licensing) ontology?

*Our work to build tools as well:
http://semanticcommunity.info/AOL_Government/Semantics_and_Ontologies_for_the_Intelligence_Community_Working_Toward_Standards/CAM_NIEM_Related_Work*

So this is essentially document management with faceted search? I did not see the NIEM Messages in this.

Jared Hoy, WI: Is there a link to GIST? How do I actually get to it?

<http://www.it.ojp.gov/gist>

David Manson (CA, dmanson@ramsellcorp.com): In thinking through information sharing needs in the Community Corrections / Reentry arena, can you speak to what, if any, work product has been produced that speaks to information sharing outwards from Corrections agencies to non-governmental organizations / community based organizations?

There will be a number of documents added to the GIST site in the near future that will address Community Corrections/Reentry.

John Mikalonis (GA, john.mikalonis@gta.ga.gov): It was mentioned that smaller entities/states/etc could request services/assistance/funding from global, how is this done? thanks.

Alex Glaros, alex_glaros@dca.ca.gov: How do you update the taxonomy? Each time a new product is added, it seems to require a lot of categorization analysis. GIST's features are the best I've seen in this area. How are new categories decided on? Additionally: GIST is a great product with a lot of potential for other government organizations. Is there any way to share GIST code with other government agencies? Can it become government open source software?