

Proceedings of the 7th Annual Federal Depository Library Conference

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Assessment of Electronic Government Information Products: Study Status

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Stage I

- Objective: Define Scope & Boundaries for Research Effort (Stage II)
- Completed Summer 1997
- NRC/CSTB Report Available on NCLIS home page: <http://www.nclis.gov>

Objectives: Stage II

- Identify Medium & Format Standards Most Appropriate for Permanent Public Access
- Assess Cost-Effectiveness of Alternative Mediums and Formats
- Identify Public & Private Standards for Use Throughout Information Life Cycle

Chronology: 1997

October - NCLIS & GPO Finalize Task Order Statement of Work (SOW)

December - JCP Approves SOW; NCLIS Forwards SOW to NCES

Chronology: 1998

January - Funds Transferred from GPO to NCLIS; Funds Transferred from NCLIS to NCES; NCLIS-NCES MOU Signed

February 12 - NCES Finance & Budget Approval Obtained

February 20 - NCES General Counsel Approval Obtained

February 26 - NCES Contract Office Received Task Order SOW & Began Negotiation with Contractor (Westat)

April 6 - Task & Budget Proposal Received from Contractor (Westat)

May - Expected Contract Award; Contractor Begins Work on Task Order

Project Milestones

1. Pre-Select Products (In Process)
2. Develop Data Collection Plan
3. Refine Criteria for Product Selection
4. Identify Key Agency Contact Officials & Conduct Meetings
5. Identify Private/Public Information Experts as Advisors
6. Conduct Site Visits with Agency Representatives
7. Create Baseline Inventory Products Database
8. Collect Data, Conduct Follow-Up, Enter Data into Database, etc.
9. Present Preliminary Findings
10. Prepare Final Report & Conduct Oral Briefings

Key Issues

- Product Sample Size (Approx. 500)
- Product Quality & Validity
- Appropriate Mix of Agency Participants
- Limited Time for Assessment
- Assessment of Electronic Government Information Products
- Short Term Agency Planning Horizon
- Varying Perspectives: Agencies, GPO, FDLP, Users

- Focus on Facts vs. Policy
- Follow-On & Next Steps (Stage III - Conclusions & Policy Recommendations)