FDsys

GPO'S FEDERAL DIGITAL SYSTEM

techline

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**. ●

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

Barbie Selby
Alderman Library, University of Virginia

Try it for Yourself
www.fdsys.gov

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

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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

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. ●

- Persistent, predictable links
- Contextual help features

- Congressional submission of content and jobs (orders)

- 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

- 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

- 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**

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. •

MIKE WASH *GPO's Chief Information Officer*

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

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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FDsys

an integrated digital content management system

GPO's
Federal Digital System

April 21, 2009

Selene Dalecky – Carrie Gibb – Lisa LaPlant

U.S. Government Printing Office

FDsys

Challenges in the Digital Age

- Access to government published information is now widely expected to be electronic
- Digital information needs to be authentic and verified to be the correct version
- Digital information needs to be available for access almost immediately
- Information needs to be preserved, making it available for generations to come

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GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys)

- GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys) is a customer-driven advanced digital information system.
- FDsys will automate the collection, management and dissemination of electronic information from all three branches of government.
- Information will be:
  - Submitted directly into FDsys
  - Permanently available in electronic format
  - Authenticated and versioned
  - Publicly accessible for searching and downloading
  - Available for conventional and on-demand printing

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What is FDsys?

- FDsys is a *Content Management System*
  - FDsys securely controls digital content throughout its lifecycle to ensure content integrity and authenticity
- FDsys is a *Preservation Repository*
  - FDsys follows archival system standards to ensure long-term preservation and access of digital content
- FDsys is an *Advanced Search Engine*
  - FDsys combines extensive metadata creation with modern search technology to ensure the highest quality search experience

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FDsys and Submission

Content within FDsys will come from three
sources:

- Submitted directly into FDsys
- Harvested automatically from official Federal websites
- Converted from previously printed publications into digital files

FDsys and Access

The FDsys search philosophy:

- Provide simple search with advanced results
- Provide advanced search features so users can efficiently retrieve specific documents
- Provide relevant results fast

FDsys and Authentication

Content authentication will ensure:

- Content has been approved by, contributed by, or harvested from an official source
- Content has been verified by GPO to be complete and unaltered

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FDsys and Preservation

Digital preservation processes will:
- Safeguard digital content and relevant metadata
- Assess the condition and needs of collections of digital information
- Meaningfully render content despite continually changing technology

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FDsys Implementation Approach

- Define major releases of FDsys
  - Build the foundational infrastructure and preservation repository, and replace current public access site (GPO Access)
  - Enable submission of content from additional sources
  - Extend FDsys functionality to interface with external systems
  - Automate preservation processes in FDsys preservation repository
  - Tailor FDsys to better meet individual user needs
- Enhance and improve functionality based on user feedback between major releases
  - Flexibility of enhancements based on expressed needs

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FDsys is live!

- Release 1 launched to the public on January 15th

  - Compilation of Presidential Documents
  - Congressional Bills
  - Congressional Documents
  - Congressional Hearings
  - Congressional Record
  - Congressional Reports
  - Federal Register
  - Public and Private Laws

- *Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents* was released on January 20th

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What's Next?

- Planning for the future

  - Kicking off Release 2

  - Collaborating on advanced interfaces to FDsys

  - Establishing an offsite backup for FDsys

- Conducting outreach activities to support future enhancements and development

- Closing out Release 1

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Release 2 Activities

- Focus on the submission of content from Congress into FDsys

- 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

- Development on Release 2 is expected to be complete in late-2009

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Advanced Interfaces to FDsys

- Position GPO's Federal Digital System as the official repository and access location for Federal Government publications
  - Develop pilot concepts with the Administration's Open Government office

- Participate in a Legislative Branch task force to study bulk data distribution and develop a recommendation to Congress

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FDsys and COOP

- Plans are underway to establish an offsite backup for FDsys
  - Site will provide Continuity of Operations (COOP) for data management and access
  - COOP site planned to be operational in July 2009

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FDsys Outreach Activities

- Formal and informal beta testing prior to system releases

- User focus groups for public site

- Stakeholder meetings

- Open-house library events

- FDsys marketing materials for libraries

- Notifications as collections are completed

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Release 1 Beta Summary

- Formal beta testing
  - Two week testing period (January 2 -12)
  - 117 users registered
  - 56 responses during formal testing

- Informal beta period
  - More than 350 comments received
  - Release 1 informal beta will continue until data migration is complete

- *Feedback gathering is an ongoing process*

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Beta Feedback – What's Hot

- Filtering capabilities

- Browse functionality

- Breadcrumbs

- Faceted searching

- Speed

- Search tips

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Beta Feedback – What's Wanted

- Dates available for collections

- Find a Library link

- Boolean operator chart

- Alerts by email and RSS

- Hyperlink documents

- Save searches

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What can you do now?

- Use the system
  www.fdsys.gov

- Send us your ideas and feedback
  pmo@gpo.gov

- Stay up to date on activities
  http://fdsys.blogspot.com/

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Release 1 Activities

- Migration of remaining collections from *GPO Access*

- Access enhancements and bug fixes based on Beta feedback

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Migration from GPO Access

- Eight collections available for Release 1 launch
  - DCPD launched one week later

- Additional collections will be migrated through September 2009
  - Next fifteen collections will be publicly released in three groups

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Migration – Group 1

- Congressional Calendars

- Congressional Committee Prints including Ways and Means Committee Prints (e.g. Blue Book, Green Book)

- History of Bills

- Congressional Record Index

- List of CFR Sections Affected

- Economic Indicators

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Migration – Group 2

- Economic Report of the President

- Congressional Record Bound

- GAO Reports and Comptroller General Decisions

- Statutes at Large

- Congressional Directory

- Government Manual

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Migration – Group 3

- United States Code

- Code of Federal Regulations

- Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States

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Access Enhancements to Date

- Search results and navigators

- Advanced search and field operators

- General site and help updates

- Retrieve by citation

- Collection specific enhancements

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Search Results & Navigators

- Improved relevancy ranking for citation searches
- Search within search results functionality
- Adjusted spacing in navigators
- Display of special characters in search results
- Sorts persisted when results are bookmarked
- Removed duplicates from committee navigator
- Remove "SEC" from Organization navigator (in work)
- Add nominees and witnesses to Person Navigator (in work)
- Update "Did you mean?" functionality (in work)

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Advanced Search & Field Operators

- Date published search for year only or year/month only
- Volume search for CREC and FR
- RIN number search for CREC and FR
- Associated bill number search for PLAW and CRPT
- Congress member search for CREC
- President search for DCPD and FR
- Citation search for DCPD, FR, PLAW, CREC, CRPT, CDOC
- Advanced search fields listed in alphabetical order in the pull down box
- Search criteria persisted in advanced search form
- Clear button added to the advanced search form
- Click "enter" to initiate an advanced search (in work)

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General & Help

- Search Tips link changed to Help
- Chart of Boolean operators
- Add dates available for each collection
- Explanation of red x in search filters added to help
- Updated formatting for help file
- CGP link added to Quick Links
- Bill Version definitions added to help
- Explanation of More Information page added to help
- Email a Friend returns to More Information page
- Find a Library link added to More Information page
- Return to expanded anchor in a browse tree (in work)
- Parser and metadata updates (in work)

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Retrieve by Citation

- Years and volumes in chronological order in pull down box

- Retrieve by citation opens to exact page in PDF

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Congressional Bills

- Referenced public laws, U.S. Code citations, and bill version values corrected

- Added long titles to bills browse if short titles are not available

- Corrected formatting on More Information page and search results

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Federal Register

- Reader Aid file accessible from Table of Contents
- Office of the Secretary documents listed under appropriate department
- Corrected title casing (e.g. U.s. → U.S.)
- Added NARA seal to browse page
- Link to package level More Information page from FR TOC
- Update display of Presidential Documents in FR TOC (in work)
- Display user readable values for PRORULE and PRESDOCU in browse and Table of Contents (in work)

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Public and Private Laws

- Added NARA seal to browse page

- Updated information on browse page and in help file

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Compilation of Presidential Docs

- Browse by month instead of by week
- Updated information on help and browse page
- Added NARA seal to browse page
- Updated formatting on More Information page
- Provided links to supplementary materials on browse page

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Congressional Reports

- Updated system to handle multiple volume reports with errata
- Updated formatting on More Information page

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Congressional Documents

- Browse by Congress with the current Congress listed first

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Congressional Hearings

- Browse displayed in order of hearing date

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Congressional Record

- Display Daily Digest category and summary on More Information page for CREC documents that contain votes

- Ability to download entire section (e.g. H, S, D, E) from any granule level More Information page

- Updated formatting on More Information page

- Updated system to handle multiple books associated with a single issue

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Planned Access Enhancements

- Apply ordering to Date Published and Congress navigators

- OCR PDFs and add images to HTML files

- Update browse to support upcoming collections (e.g. CFR)

- Enhance advanced search page based on user feedback

- Update help information

- Implement collection specific updates

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