GPO's
Federal Digital System

July 23, 2009

U.S. Government Printing Office

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

FDsys content will come from three sources:

- Submitted directly into FDsys

- Harvested automatically from official Federal websites

- Converted from previously printed publications into digital files

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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

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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!

- January 15, 2009
  - Compilation of Presidential Documents
  - Congressional Bills
  - Congressional Documents
  - Congressional Hearings
  - Congressional Record
  - Congressional Reports
  - Federal Register
  - Public and Private Laws

- January 20, 2009
  - Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents

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FDsys is still live!

- Late winter and spring 2009
  - Bug fixes and access enhancements based on user feedback
- May 2009
  - Budget of the United States Government
- June 2009
  - List of CFR Sections Affected
  - Economic Indicators
  - Congressional Calendars
  - Congressional Committee Prints

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What's Next?

- Closing out Release 1
  - Migrating remaining collections
  - Establishing an offsite backup for FDsys
  - Adding digital signatures to additional collections
- Planning for Release 2
- Supporting Content Originator initiatives
- Conducting outreach activities

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Migration

- Migration from GPO Access to FDsys is expected to be complete in fall of 2009

- Transition brochure has been developed

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Migration – Group 2

- History of Bills

- Congressional Record Index

- 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

- Remaining content will follow Group 3

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Offsite Backup

- 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 late 2009

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Digital Signatures

- Launch with digital signatures
  - Congressional Record Bound
  - Statutes at Large
  - Congressional Directory
  - Government Manual
- Day forward signing of existing collections
  - Federal Register
  - Congressional Record
  - Congressional Reports
  - Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents

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Release 2

- 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

- Release 2 design is expected to be complete in late 2009

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FDsys

How can you help?

- 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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