

Logical Data Structure Working Group

TAG 19

December 7-9, 2009

Montreal, Canada

Project History

- The review of the current LDS Version 1.7 is intended to assess policy considerations and ensure that the revisions represent those considerations and conclusions
- Our working group convened to infuse LDS Version 2.0 with greater policy deliberation and emphasis
- Working group recommendations are due to the Technical Advisory Group in 2011

Discussion Questions

- 1) What if any functions should the LDS accommodate; are there any currently included that need not be?
- 2) What revisions if any are required for the current version of the LDS?
- 3) Does the Data Structure require a Revision 1.8 or a Version 2.0?

Project Status

To assess border, immigration and passport issuing authorities' current use of the LDS, this working group:

- Created and distributed a survey
- Collected opinions from both Government and non-government organizations

Both activities have served as points of departure for discussion purposes. Much work remains.

Current State of Play

- Many countries are developing Second Generation ePassports which will include fingerprint biometrics in Data Group 3 of LDS
- Increased use of Smart Gate Concepts to facilitate travel through use of ePassports
- The public is more willing to provide personal information including biometrics to passport authorities as long as information facilitates travel and provides personal protection
- Current cost of developing ePassport is exclusively born by the issuing authority

Issues of Concern

- The ePassport Chip is currently under utilized with respect to potential for enhanced facilitation, as well as other improvements
- Some border and immigration authorities may not be fully aware of ePassport capabilities
- Border and immigration officers may believe that ePassport constitutes a threat to their jobs
- Border, immigration and passport issuing authorities face budget short falls which may limit the ability to fully exploit the potential of a revised LDS

Areas of Exploration

The next LDS Survey needs to address the following questions:

- How have border, immigration and passport issuing authorities reacted to the ePassport chip?
- How do we educate state authorities as well as the general public to promote benefits of greater use of LDS?
- How do we overcome negative perception among border authorities that LDS could significantly change the work of performed by border inspectors?

Moving Forward

Develop a framework with Terms of Reference with a view toward:

- Educating stakeholders, especially those in Governments, of the existing opportunities associated with travel document functionalities already enabled or potentially made feasible by the LDS revision
- Improve negative, ill-informed or outdated perceptions of ePassports within the border and immigration authority community
- Assists the exploration of Government needs and requirements

Background

Phase 1 of the evolution of LDS has been to reflect in the present specifications such concerns that are currently present in the MRTD:

- Personal data (MRZ) in the chip (DG1)
- Photograph in the chip (DG2)
- Optional use of other DGs for Document and Personal Information, e.g., DG7; DG1-DG16 are specified.
- Protection against counterfeit and manipulation (printing techniques, laser engraving, etc) of chip data (Passive Authentication)
- Protection against copying (OVDs, UV inks, etc) of chip data (Active Authentication)
- Protection against unauthorized reading of personal information in that a closed book cannot be read (Basic Access Control)

Background

Phase 2 could include carrying out present manual practices in the next version of the LDS, for example:

- Incorporating stamps in the passport at the borders electronically by adding “Travel Records into the chip; requires write access, restricted to the “Travel Record Area”
- Incorporating visas into the passport by adding visa information into the chip; requires write access, restricted to the “Visa Information Area”
- Note that this does nothing more than making the already present and generally accepted features, information and practices available electronically

Next Steps

Expand outreach to stakeholders, key decision makers

Based on experience of LDS experts thus far, it is estimated that the total effort will take as long as five years through to finalized specifications. The operational timeline for next steps as envisioned is:

- Conduct sub-group meetings and develop a draft report from now through may 2010
- Distribute that draft report and seek comments through July 2010
- Edit and revise the draft report accordingly by September 2010
- Distribute the revised draft to the NTWG for collective comments in October 2010
- Prepare the draft of policies/functionalities for TAG 20 review and comments
- Solicit all comments, incorporate revisions and have final draft of policies/functionalities and preliminary draft of technical specifications ready for submission to TAG 21
- Complete the Technical Report through to publication of final technical specifications in late 2013 or early 2014