July Monthly Meeting - USGS Cloud Hosting Solutions and Implementing Controlled Vocabulary Services in USGS

We had over 90 WebEx attendees to our July Monthly Meeting, great attendance for a summer vacation month.

Head over to the CDI July Monthly Meeting page for the abstracts, working group reports, and for logged in members - access the presentations and recording.

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The challenge of integrating diverse data types

The meeting started out with our latest Scientist's Challenge, A Seismogenic Landslide Database: seeking the best way to make a diverse database accessible to others. **This challenge highlights the need to integrate and serve very diverse data types**, including seismic data, seismic network logs, landslide measurements, references, photos, GIS files, imagery, and even emails and blog posts. Thanks to Kate Allstadt and Brennah McVey for presenting this challenge, we'll update CDI on possible solutions at a future monthly meeting.

USGS Cloud Hosting Solutions (CHS)

Next, Kimberly Scott and Vickie Backus gave an update on **progress and activities of the USGS Cloud Hosting Solutions (CHS)**. Their presentations outlined the services offered and the near-term plan for moving USGS applications to the Cloud. **For the latest CHS news and monthly updates, see the USGS internal site http://internal.usgs.gov/oei/cloud-hosting-solutions**. Contact cloudservices@usgs.gov for general CHS questions, including access to the CHS Sandbox. Q&A about security, geospatial tech stacks, and the GitHub Enterprise license is archived on the CDI forum.

USGS Controlled Vocabulary Services

The final presentation, **Implementing Controlled Vocabulary Services in USGS,** combined a report from a FY14-15 CDI funded project and a demo. This may be the first CDI funded project that produced a manifesto. A Controlled Vocabulary Manifesto, that is! Although using controlled vocabularies may seem elementary at first (to some), the maintenance, implementation, and integration of different vocabularies for different users and applications is quite a complex matter. **The result will be improved integrity and quality of the research results produced by the USGS for the Nation.** Follow-up Q&A is on the CDI forum. Look for a summary of the Controlled Vocabulary demo (part of the CDI Virtual Training Series) in an upcoming post. Thanks to Fran Lightsom, Peter Schweitzer, and Alan Allwardt for keeping the CDI Community and the USGS itself up to date on semantic web issues.

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