VCAT Annual Report Input

June 9-10, 2009 meeting

Possible Annual Report Topics

- NIST conduct of its standards coordination role
  - Broad definition of "coordination" is in NIST's interests
  - SMART GRID - can NIST undertake to lead the development of an architectural concept that will inform the standards development effort?
  - Historic opportunity/challenge stemming from HIT and SG coordination assignments
  - Should we add recommendations for organizational response? Focus on the functional issues, not so much on the solution

Coordination (cont.)

- Smart Grid and Healthcare IT standards are national scale infrastructure

  – Requires leadership, management, facilitation

  – Pick up the pieces that no one else does; making sure a system of systems works

  – NIST needs to identify "holes" in its own ability to undertake the role and fill them somehow (contracts, hires, etc.). Seek and make use of partnerships.

  – Does NIST have the authority needed to undertake the full range of possible coordination roles?

Coordination

- Enforcing Authority of NIST
  - OMB may be the means by which other agencies can be coerced to cooperate
  - Can CTO and CIO be helpful in reinforcing NIST role?
- Should VCAT report include a section on Standards and NIST role?
  - Development, coordination of consensus standards
  - Research in measurement
  - Metrics for regulation
  - Verification and validation of products/services

Coordination

- Specific comments on the Smart Grid and the Health IT standards challenges and the NIST role in their development.
- Tactics and Strategy
  - Take advantage of partners, in-house talent, visitors, etc.

NIST Standards Objectives

- Support consensus development when asked
  - Coordination, measurement science, validation, verification and certifications
- Actively promote development of standards in aid of national interest
- Balancing act between lab research functions and documentary standards coordination and development

Architecture

- VCAT was uncomfortable with the architectural frameworks for the Health IT and Smart Grid coordination efforts.
  - Can we get more on this - security, reliability, etc.also exploitation and the red team problem.
  - Add physical security issues also
  - Matrix from Ruzena
  - Set up subgroups of vcat to focus on HIT and SG?
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Additional points

- Assure that other agency connections with SG and HIT are well-established
- We need to reflect on Safety at NIST
- Awareness of activities outside of NIST that are relevant to its mission (including HIT and SG among others). Proactively solicit inputs to augment internal knowledge.
- Strategic Planning – role and placement of documentary standards (and resources required)
- Understanding the system design of HIT and SG to determine the importance and order of work to achieve the desired results.
- Define use of "security" in various references in the vcat report.

Construction

- Opine on the choices made and priorities chosen for ARRA and FY2009/2010 initiatives