

Inside eHHR

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SOA Products Coming to the VITA Catalog

Virginia Information Technologies Agency is adding its enterprise-based Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) services into the VITA Catalog. Agencies will now be able to utilize these powerful tools and services to interface applications and share “real time” data with a variety of platforms and across agency borders. Not only do these services offer the opportunity to effectively integrate technology through a next-generation approach, they additionally establish a flexible agility to adapt to changing business needs with more ease than hard-coding solutions. Rich Barnes, Architectural and Technology Services (ATS) manager, says “this is a step forward in system modernization for the commonwealth”. The catalog will include the following services:



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The **Enterprise Service Bus (ESB / IIB)** connects different applications for information exchange. This can be a connection from legacy to new applications, between two applications, or among several applications. The value of the ESB increases when the Transformation Extender is included to automate data transformations during the information transfer, thereby eliminating time-consuming steps involved in coding. Another add-on to the ESB and the Transformation Extender is the Healthcare Industry Pack. This add-on automates and keeps current with health care data formats that many agencies are required to use.

The **Message Queue (MQ)** service sends data-embedded messages from one system to other systems. Data transmission is certain and can occur at any time regardless if the receiving systems are ready to receive the data.



The **Address Verification** subscription service provides the most up-to-date address information for our citizens to promote data quality and more effective, less-repetitive communication. This is especially helpful to agencies handling time-sensitive correspondence.

With the **Business Rules** service, application rules and logic can easily and quickly be inserted and maintained for less cost, thereby providing the agency with reduced expense and the agility to make inevitable changes to their applications.

The **WebSphere Application Server** service provides a robust and secure environment to the agency to develop and implement their applications.

The **Oracle Enterprise database** service provides agencies with the robust database they expect, but without the worry and cost of dedicating agency resources for database maintenance.

For all of the ATS services, information is encrypted in motion and at rest. Additionally, all services in production have high availability; that is, if a production environment were to fail, the service will continue on an alternate server. Every production service has 24/7 support, and all services are setup for Disaster Recovery (DR). With 24/7 technical support, high availability, and DR—risk and cost is reduced for the agency.

For additional information on ATS services, please contact a VITA Customer Account Manager.

Virginia Selected for the National Governors Association Learning Lab



Virginia has been selected as one of six states competitively selected to participate in the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices' Learning Lab on Innovations in the Use of Data in Policymaking. Virginia

has numerous sources of data and it is critical to continue to develop efficient, secure methods to share data to support policy development and better outcomes for its citizens. While Virginia has achieved progress in its technical abilities to share data, business adoption lags. This NGA Learning Lab has potential to serve as a timely accelerator to achieve meaningful progress quickly through the insight and expertise of others who have created a successful model, such as Washington State.

This is a “quick hit” project having a four month duration wherein awarded states will be provided access to officials in Washington state to learn about their Results Washington Initiative. Beginning in May and concluding in August, Virginia’s team will:

- ◆ Participate in a 1½-day meeting in Washington State to learn how Washington State officials use data in policymaking
- ◆ Undertake a process to assess the ways data are currently being used in their own states for policymaking
- ◆ Develop a plan for improving the use of data in their state’s policymaking
- ◆ Receive short-term expert consultation to refine that data plan
- ◆ Participate on calls with NGA staff to report progress, discuss challenges, and brainstorm solutions

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Questions or Comments?

email: eHHRProgram@dmas.virginia.gov