A Web Services Manifesto



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The Williams Family

Life Event: Moving to Utah

- Change of address
- Register car
- Register to vote
- Enroll child in school
- Bussing
- City services
- Health information
- Child safety
- Check the commute
- Tax information

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Federating Services

Moving to Utah

- Real estate
- Taxes
- Register car
- Register to vote
- Enroll child in school
- Bussing
- City services
- Utilities
- Health information
- Banking
- Child safety
- Change of address
- Check commute

Child entering School

- Health information
- Grades
- Tuition and fees
- Books
- Child safety
- Bussing
- Federal programs
- Check commute

Shared services Private services



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Web Services

- Web services are self-contained pieces of code with three distinguishing properties:
 - 1. Communicate in an interoperable XML protocol, such as SOAP.
 - 2. Describe themselves in an interoperable XML meta-format, such as WSDL.
 - 3. Federate globally through XML based registry services, such as UDDI.
- Not defined in terms of SOAP, WSDL, and UDDI.



Legacy Data

- Governments and other organizations control vast data resources
- That data is held hostage in disconnected, legacy data resources
- eGovernment is about, in part, freeing data from siloed systems and legacy platforms



Enabling Web Services

- There are things we can do, for almost nothing, as we put services online that will have a huge impact on future development.
- But...we have to design wisely.



Design Principles

- 1. Every data element and collection is a resource
- 2. Every resource should have a URI
- 3. Cool URI's don't change
- 4. Preserve the structure of data until the *last* possible moment (*i.e.* return XML)
- 5. Make XML Schemas available *online* for your XML
- 6. Data queries on existing resources should be done with a GET
- 7. Use POST to create new resources



Design Principles (cont)

- 8. Document your service API using WSDL, WRDL, or some other standard
- 9. Advertise the presence of the data using WSIL
- 10. Adhere to data standards such as RSS where available
- 11. Use Metadata (RDF) for XML
- 12. Use HTTP authentication as much as possible
- 13. Make data available in multiple flavors



For More Information

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- http://www.windley.com
- http://xml.amazon.com
- http://www.soaplite.com
- http://xml.apache.org/axis