Top reasons to use ADMS

✔ Standardised descriptions of interoperability solutions
✔ Automated exchange of descriptions of interoperability solutions
✔ Increased reuse of interoperability solutions
✔ Easier access to interoperability solutions
✔ Increased coordination across borders and sectors

An action supported by ISA²

This action is supported by the European Commission’s ISA² programme. ISA² is a EUR 131 million programme supporting the modernisation of public administrations in Europe through the development of eGovernment solutions. More than 20 solutions are already available, with more to come soon. All solutions are open source and available free of charge to any interested public administration in Europe.

More on the programme

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Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS)
Business need

Many standardisation organisations, public administrations and software vendors have created reusable interoperability solutions for e-Government systems, such as frameworks, methodologies, specifications, tools and services.

Unfortunately, these solutions are not always well documented and they are scattered over many different websites and online collections. As a result, it is difficult to get a comprehensive overview. The lack of documentation and oversight is a major barrier to accessing and reusing such interoperability solutions.

Solution

Asset description Metadata Schema (AMDS) is a simple specification for describing reusable interoperability solutions. It makes the following possible:

- **Solution providers**, such as standardisation organisations and public administrations, can describe their solutions using the standardised ADMS metadata, while keeping their own system for documenting and storing them.
- **Content aggregators**, such as Joinup, can easily aggregate such descriptions into a single point of access.
- **ICT developers** can more easily explore, find, identify, select, and obtain interoperability solutions from the single point of access.

ADMS-AP 2.0, an updated version of the ADMS application profile for Joinup, was released in April 2016. This revision extends the use of ADMS to the description of other types of interoperability solutions, meaning solutions covering the political, legal, organisational and technical interoperability layers as defined by the European Interoperability Framework.

ADMS endorsement

- The ADMS specification was developed in an International Working Group comprising more than 60 representatives from public administrations and other experts from 20 EU Member States, following an open and inclusive process of consensus building.
- The ADMS specification is endorsed by the EU Member States through the Coordination Group of the ISA² Programme.
- W3C published the ADMS specification as a Working Group Note.

ADMS implementations

- **Joinup**: This online platform provided by the European Commission hosts a collection of reusable interoperability solutions. It aims to help public administrations to offer modern, user-friendly and interoperable public services while reducing costs by reusing solutions which have already been developed. ADMS is used as the basis for organising and harmonising the descriptive metadata of these solutions.
- **Metadata Registry (MDR) of the EU Publications Office**: ADMS-compliant RDF export for MDR Named Authority Lists. The registry registers and maintains the definition data (metadata elements, named authority lists, schemas, etc.). These are used by the different European Institutions involved in the legislative process and by the Publications Office of the EU in its production and dissemination process.
- **ADMS-enabled description of a vocabulary implemented in PoolParty Thesaurus Manager 3.1.0**: PoolParty Thesaurus Manager (PPT) allows the content architect to fill in the full description of a controlled vocabulary (a SKOS Thesaurus) following ADMS standards.
- **ADMS export feature for XRepository**: The XRepository of the German Federal Ministry of the Interior supports the processes of development and distribution of standards.

More examples of the ADMS implementations are available on the ADMS webpage (see infobox on the next page).