

Consolidated Definitions and References

A consistent set of terms, process framework definitions and references apply across all the IT Planning and Management Guides. An initial set of resources such as templates, samples, checklists, and other items are also provided to implement the activities defined by the process framework for each guide. These items are described below.

Glossary

This contains the consolidated vocabulary used throughout the [IT Planning and Management Guides](#). Terms that are specific to the process framework elements are consolidated in the Consolidated [Artifact](#) or [Role](#) lists.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

This is the consolidated list of special terms and abbreviations used across the IT Planning and Management Guides.

Consolidated Artifact Definitions

Artifacts are units of information input and output by the activities described in the process framework of the guides. This page consolidates the definitions from across all the activities in the guides. Some artifacts are formal products that have specific content (e.g., the HS IT Strategic Plan). Others are placeholders for categories of information that are usually context dependent, such as External Conditions.

Artifacts can be realized in many different ways depending on the context in which an activity is performed. The [resources](#) provides a growing list of templates, samples, checklists, or other items to help identify, format, and use some of these artifacts.

Consolidated Role Definitions

The roles (i.e., organizations) in the model are virtual. They may be implemented differently in each State. They may exist as a single organization or have their function dispersed across many entities within a State or local Government. See the Guidelines for Applying for information on mapping these roles to individuals or groups within your State.

Consolidated References

This is the set of references that are external to the Guides. This includes electronic as well as traditionally published material. Some publication dates for items available on the Web were not available; therefore, the date of publication reflects the date the item was first accessed.

Consolidated Resources

Resources are items that can be used to perform the activities described in the IT Planning and Management Guides. This includes pointers to additional background information, templates, samples, checklists, or lessons learned.

The resources are organized according to each IT Planning and Management Guides. Some resources may be applicable to more than one Guide.

- [Strategic IT Planning and Management Guide Resources](#)
- [Technical Architecture Guide Resources](#)
- [Technical Evolution Guide Resources](#)
- [Technology Fabrication Projects Guide Resources](#)
- [Technology Deployment Guide Resources](#)
- [Technical Operations Guide Resources](#)

Glossary

This contains the consolidated vocabulary used throughout the [IT Planning and Management Guides](#). Terms that are specific to the process framework elements are consolidated in the [Roles](#) or [Artifact](#) lists.

Adaptation	See: Maintenance (Adaptive)
Application	A set of software that provides functionality to the business process or is necessary to operate and maintain the automated information systems.
Application architecture	The model(s) that describes how a set of applications will be structured and the interfaces and design rules for each of its parts (e.g., isolating graphical user interface code from business logic).
Application platform	A collection of tightly integrated computing hardware, peripherals, operating system, and middleware upon which an application is built. The application provides some of its functionality by accessing services residing on the application platform through an Application Program Interface.
Application platform entity	The set of resources, including hardware and software, that provides all the services to application software executing on that platform, including the ability to have application-to-application services.
Application portfolio	The aggregation of applications required to support the HS Agency.
Application Service Provider	Organizations that provide application programs or services for a fee over the Internet. These programs or services were previously made available from the Enterprise's server or personal computers.
Automated information system	A combination of computer hardware and software, data, and telecommunications that performs functions for an organization.
Baseline	A set of items that have been formally reviewed and agreed upon. The agreement is between key stakeholders, such as the item's producer and consumer (user). A baseline establishes a fixed point for further development or use. Items in a baseline can be modified only through formal change control procedures in which the stakeholders participate.
Baseline data	Initial collection of data to establish a basis for comparison. (National Performance Review)
Benchmark	A standard or point of reference used in measuring and/or judging quality or value. (National Performance Review)
Business	Any Enterprise that provides a type of offering. The organizational entity being studied, regardless of its size or purpose either private or public sector.

Business process	A set of interacting activities and decisions that produce one or more products or services for customers of the business Enterprise.
Business process reengineering	The significant redesign and restructuring of an organization's business operations and management practices to achieve a significant change in performance, such as cost, cycle time, service, and quality. Traditional organizational boundaries are eliminated and replaced by an emphasis on core business processes.
Business rule	An expression of the business policies and procedures (e.g, Agency or HS Program), often embedded within the logic of an application program.
Capacity	A measure of an organization's output, for example participation rates in an HS program or other Federal reporting requirements. For the IT organization, this may resolve into measures of efficiency or effectiveness of meeting HS IT evolving needs.
Component	A software item that can be independently developed, distributed (provided and/or sold), and used in its binary form separable from the original context. Components can be used to develop distributed applications in which the components can communicate with one another. A component is based on a component model, such as COM or JavaBeans. Component models support runtime interface exposure and discovery, component properties, persistence, event handling, application builder support, distribution (location transparency), and component packaging. Components have two distinct parts: specifications (or interfaces) and implementations. Components are typically generated with object-oriented approaches, but this is not essential, as long as they can be used as objects.
Core competency	A bundle of skill sets or capabilities that significantly contribute to an organization's ability to satisfy the customer, offer unique services, or have future value.
Core process	The fundamental activities, or group of activities, so critical to an organization's success that failure to perform them in an exemplary manner will result in deterioration of the organization's mission.
Critical success factors	Those few areas where things must go right for the Enterprise to be considered successful in achieving its mission. CSFs are internal and external states and events that can have significant impact on perceived results.
Cultural filter	A concept that describes how one delivers, views, or interprets information in different regions. For instance, telephone interviews or face-to-face interviews may be necessary given the interviewee's circumstances.
Culture	The sum of individual opinions, shared mindsets, values, and norms.

Data	Information absent its context. A representation of facts, concepts, and instructions in a defined format and structure that permits the processing of interpretation by humans or machines.
Environment	Circumstances and conditions that interact with and affect an organization. These can include economic, political, cultural, and physical conditions inside or outside of the organization. See the Roles for additional information. (National Performance Review)
Enterprise	The whole (or portion) of the State HS Agency (or additional Agencies) that is affected by change in the IT infrastructure. This scope is necessary to establish the boundaries, within which the HS Agency decision makers can manage the interoperability and integration within and across this boundary.
Enterprise application integration	The application of technology to consolidate and coordinate disparate legacy applications and databases to extend their useful lifetime across the enterprise. The interoperability generally relies on message-oriented middleware with adaptors and or connectors that allow for existing applications to interact by moving, routing, and transforming data between them in real time.
Entity	A discrete, identifiable element of technology. An entity may be made up of subsidiary entities and also may be part of a larger entity. As an element of technology, an entity is a "thing" and can be characterized in part by the technology used to implement it. For example, a candle and a light bulb are both implementations of a "light source" entity.
Function (business)	A collection of resources (equipment, networking, individuals) in a single area of operations, such as finance, accounting, personnel, production, engineering, operations, development, or support.
Goal	A general target the HS Agency or organization wishes to reach in a specific area. It is a broad direction for managerial decision making, often stated in terms of qualitative measures. Goals need to be achieved for the HS Agency or organization to achieve its mission.
Guiding principles	The shared values and management or technical style of the Enterprise. They articulate the ethical standards by which the organization makes decisions and conducts activities.
Information	Data that has been given meaning by human reference. Data becomes information only when it is placed into a meaningful context or relationship.
Information appliance	Combines the application software and application platform entities into one entity. This term is used when the presence of configurable and/or separately procurable software is not visible to the user of a particular information technology. Examples: set-top cable TV boxes, video cassette recorders,

	television sets, fax machines, cell phones.
Information technology	The processing equipment, interconnecting (networking) equipment, and the software entities that operate within this equipment.
Integration	Combining separately developed parts into a whole so that they work together. The means of integration may vary, from simply mating the parts together at an interface, to radically altering the parts or providing something to mediate between them.
Interface	A boundary between two or more entities such as human-computer or application program to application.
Interoperability	The ability of independently developed and fielded applications that execute on heterogeneous computer platforms to communicate with one another and to exchange and use information (content, format, and semantics).
Legacy system	Jargon for an AIS (or set of applications) that is currently in use, and initially deployed many years ago, using a computing infrastructure that is several generations old. These systems tend to be critical to the business and cannot be easily replaced or cost-effectively maintained. They are approaching or have reached the end of their practical operational life span.
Maintenance	The process of modifying a system or component after delivery to correct faults, improve performance or other attributes, or adapt to a changed environment, with the purpose of maintaining the value of the existing system.
Maintenance (adaptive)	Maintenance performed to make a system usable in a changing environment. Adaptation refers to evolutionary changes (usually involves a progressive modification of some structure or structures), which a system makes in order to cope with the changes in the environment, while still keeping the essential attributes of the system's structure and processes constant. For example: responding to increased enrollment by hiring more teachers; adjusting the clothing to suit the weather
Maintenance (Corrective)	Maintenance performed to correct faults (defects) in hardware or software.
Maintenance (perfective)	Maintenance performed to improve the performance, maintainability, or other attributes of a system.
Measure	One of several measurable values that contribute to the understanding and quantification of a key performance indicator.
Metrics	The elements of a measurement system consisting of key performance indicators, measures, and measurement methodologies.
Migration	The process of transferring all or part of an AIS's

	<p>functionality, data, or communications to another technical infrastructure. The original application code may be ported or replaced. The business data (and its schema) is usually retained in a significant way.</p>
Mission	<p>An enduring statement of purpose; the organization's reason for existence. The mission describes what the organization does, who it does it for, and how it does it. (National Performance Review)</p>
Noncompliance	<p>An instance where performance of a task or a resultant work product does not follow the agreed upon procedures, descriptions, standards, or other requirements. A noncompliance is generally found through QA reviews and audits and formally tracked until it is resolved.</p>
Objective	<p>A broad, general direction or intent.</p>
Open system (environment)	<p>An AIS that is built to a set of specifications that are nonproprietary, allowing the system to better interoperate, scale, or allow for porting of applications across heterogeneous, multivendor computing platforms.</p>
Organization	<p>A logical grouping of people and resources (including information) for accomplishing some aspect of the mission of an Enterprise. See the Roles for the generic organizational entities assumed by the guides.</p>
Packaged solution	<p>An integrated collection of software, hardware, or other parts provided by vendors as a basis for developing solutions to common business domain functions. A packaged solution is often highly tailorable at the design level to meet Enterprise-unique needs. Systems transferred from one State and adapted for another are also in this category.</p>
Performance measure	<p>A quantitative or qualitative characterization of performance. (National Performance Review)</p>
Plateau (evolution planning)	<p>An incremental level of capability at which the HS Agency operates, as it moves to achieve its vision in accordance with the strategy. It is a point where the HS Agency can reevaluate the progress being made; note significant changes in the HS Agency's external, internal, or IT Division conditions; and readjust plans. Plateaus can be represented in the IT Evolution Plan as intermediate milestones.</p>
Platform	<p>See: Application platform</p>
Plug-in	<p>A program that can be downloaded and installed on demand to be used as part of a Web browser. A plug-in is generally a small program that is activated by the Web browser to perform special processing of objects within the HTML document, such as viewing Portable Document Format (PDF) or streaming video objects.</p>
Portability (porting)	<p>Portability is a characteristic of a system (or part) that describes the ease with which the system (or part) can run on multiple, heterogeneous platforms. There are two general</p>

levels of portability: the binary-program level and the source-code level. Binary portability is exemplified by the Java language, whose byte codes are capable of executing on any computer that supports its runtime environment (Java Virtual Machine). Source code portability is generally achieved by coding to a recognized standard (e.g., ANSI C++) and APIs to facilitate program compilation in multiple target environments.

- Portal** A (Web) application that provides a single means of access to many information sources and applications. Portals typically provide personalization, collaboration, content management, security, and other services to users. A portal may serve one or more types of users within or across HS Agency boundaries, such as clients, case workers, or service providers.
- Process** A sequence of activities that transforms or uses inputs to produce outputs.
- Profile** A profile is a collection of specifications developed to meet a set of requirements. Elements of a profile may consist of either formal standards (i.e., those developed within a voluntary standards organization such as ANSI or IEEE) or de facto standards (i.e., those accepted within the marketplace). Each element of a profile may be a specification in its entirety or a specification with certain options or parameters to be chosen. The NIST APP organizes the standards into several services areas: Operating System, Human Computer Interface, Software Engineering, Data Management, Data Interchange, Graphics, and Network Services.
- Program** An organizational structure within an Enterprise. The program maintains expertise and resources in a particular area (e.g., the TANF program) and may allocate these resources to specific projects. The program exists for a significant period of time because it is associated with a business or other long-term and evolving objective. The program may be part or all of an HS Agency department, center, or IT Division.
- Project** An effort, directed toward achieving a specific goal, that has been assigned specific resources and duration (for contrast, see [Program](#)). Projects are the context in which all development work is done for the program.
- Quality assurance** A planned and systematic set of actions to provide adequate confidence that work products and the processes used to produce them conform to established requirements.
- Reengineering** The examination of a system to extract inherent knowledge and functionality followed by the implementation of equivalent capability in a new system. The new implementation may include modifications for changed requirements not part of the original system. Also known as renovation and reclamation.

Resource	That which is used or consumed by the Enterprise in fulfillment of its objectives.
Restructuring	A process to reorganize a system in another form, preserving the original system's external behavior (functional and semantics).
Return on investment (IT)	The gains achieved from spending on IT for the HS Agency.
Reverse engineering	The examination of a system to extract inherent knowledge and functionality with the express purpose of creating an abstract model or specification of the system (does not involve changing the subject system).
Role	A unit of defined responsibility that may be assumed by one or more individuals (e.g., a team that fulfills the planner responsibilities). Roles are defined for the framework in a Role model.
Scalable	A scalable application system is one that can increase its throughput without significantly increasing its cost per user (or cost per transaction). The system should also be able to scale down as well.
Service	A capability that a provider entity makes available to a user entity at the interface between those entities (e.g., a Web service)
Standard	A special case, or type of specification, that has been through a formal ballot in a group open to wide participation, and have a known community of consensus. These formal standards may be considered U.S. national standards.
Standard (de facto)	A proprietary specification that becomes widely adopted in the marketplace based on marketplace success, made available by the developer of the technology in a public or private domain (e.g., for a fee).
Standard (formal)	Standards that have been agree upon by a group open to wide participation. These standards have been through a defined balloting process.
Standard (international)	A standard developed and successfully balloted outside the U.S., using an approach that may vary greatly from the U.S. approach. The scope of ballot is global (e.g., ISO/IEC).
Standard (private or proprietary)	Specification developed within an organization; may be protected by intellectual property restrictions or agreement prior to use.
Standard (public)	Any specification that has established some consensus but has not been formally balloted. Usually a proprietary specification that became widely adopted in the marketplace.
Standard (regional)	A standard developed and successfully balloted outside the U.S., using an approach that may vary greatly from the U.S. approach. Regional is when the scope of ballot is limited to a specific part of the world (e.g., European, Pacific Rim, or North American) as opposed to international.

Standard (U.S. national)	A standard developed and successfully balloted inside the U.S., usually by a voluntary standards organization subject to basic ANSI guidelines.
Strategic planning	Those actions that lead to the definition of the IT organization's mission, the formulation of its goals, and the definition of the essential action to be implemented to meet those goals.
Strategy	Strategies are the "hows" of pursuing a mission and achieving goals. A strategy is a managerial action plan for achieving targeted outcomes, mirrored in the pattern of moves and approaches devised to produce desired results.
Strategy project	A managed set of activities that generate the HS IT Strategic Plan.
System architecture	The model(s) that describes how the major IT elements (equipment, data sources, applications, and networking) are arranged to provide or exchange services between the elements and external entities (people or automated systems).
Target Application Platform	A Target Application Platform is the realization of an application platform described in the Target Architecture, using appropriately adapted custom or vendor provided frameworks (software and hardware products). The Target Application Platform is the physical environment upon which the applications for an AIS are built, executed, and maintained.
Target Architecture	The Target Architecture is the design for an instance of elements defined in the Technical Architecture. A Target Architecture elaborates the Technical Architecture by binding specific versions of software, hardware, data stores, and networking implementations to abstract Technical Architecture descriptions. A target Application Platform, for example, is a realization of an application platform described in the Technical Architecture, using appropriately adapted vendor provided frameworks (software and hardware products).
Task	In the context of project management, this is a well defined unit of work that can be assigned to individuals to perform, and tracked to completion.
Technical Architecture	A Technical Architecture identifies and describes the types of applications, platforms, and external entities; their interfaces; and their services; as well as the context within which the entities interoperate. A Technical Architecture is based on a Technical Reference Model (TRM) and the selected standards that further describe the TRM elements (the profile). The Technical Architecture is the basis for selecting and implementing the infrastructure to establish the target architecture.
Technical Reference	A taxonomy of services arranged according to a conceptual model, such as the Open System Environment model. The

Model	enumerated services are specific to those needed to support the technology computing style (e.g., distributed object computing) and the industry/business application needs (e.g., Human Services, financial).
Tier (n-tier)	A physical partitioning of an application across three or more networked computer platforms, such as user interface, business logic, and data access and storage functions.
Transcoding	The process of dynamically transforming data as it is delivered so that it is optimally formatted for the destination environment. Transcoding can be applied in many situations: character encoding (internationalization), addressing differences in link speed or display screen form factors (wireless), or converting between video compression formats.
Value chain	The collection of activities within a company that allow it to compete within an industry. The activities in a value chain can be grouped into two categories: primary activities, which include inbound logistics, outbound logistics and after-sales service, and support activities, which include human resources management, HS Agency infrastructure, procurement, and technology development.
Vision	A guiding theme that articulates the nature of the organization's operation (business) and the intent for its future. It is a description of what senior management wants to achieve, usually refers to the mid- to long-term, and often is expressed in terms of a series of goals.
Web service	A unit of application logic providing data and services to other applications via ubiquitous Web protocols and data formats such as HTTP, XML, and SOAP. The service implementation (and physical location) is generally hidden from the user of the service.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

This is the consolidated list of special terms and abbreviations used across the IT Planning and Management Guides

ACF	Administration for Children and Families, an HHS Agency
ADO	ActiveX Data Objects
AIS	Automated Information System
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, an HHS Agency
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
AOA	Administration on Aging, an HHS Agency
APD	Advanced Planning Document
API	Application Program Interface
ASP	Application Service Provider
A-TARS	Agency Technical Architecture Reference Set
ATA	Agency Technical Architecture
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, an HHS Agency
CCB	Change Control Board
CD	Compact Disk
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an HHS Agency
CD-RW	Compact Disk - ReWritable
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CICS	Customer Information Control System
CM	Configuration Management
CMP	Contractor Management Plan
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, an HHS Agency
COBOL	Common Business Oriented Language
COM	Component Object Model
CORBA	Common Object Request Broker Architecture
COTS	commercial-off-the-shelf
CPU	Central Processing Unit
CSE	Child Support Enforcement
DASD	Direct Access Storage Device
DBMS	Database Management System
DOM	Document Object Model
DNS	Domain Name System

DSL	Digital Subscriber Line
DTD	Document Type Definition
DVD	Digital Versatile Disk
DVD+RW	DVD-Rewriteable
EAI	Enterprise Application Integration
EBT	Electronic Benefit Transfer
EJB	Enterprise JavaBean
EoS	Estimate of the Situation
FAMIS	Family Assistance Management Information System
FAR	Federal Acquisition Regulation
FDA	Food and Drug Administration, an HHS Agency
FFP	Federal Financial Participation
GQM	Goal, Question, Metric approach to measurement
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration, an HHS Agency
HS	Human Services
HTML	HyperText Markup Language
IHS	Indian Health Service, an HHS Agency
IDE	Integrated Development Environment
IDEFO	Integrated Computer-Aided Manufacturing (ICAM) DEfinition for function modeling
IDEF1X	Integrated Computer-Aided Manufacturing (ICAM) DEfinition for data modeling
IDL	Interface Definition Language
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IEP	IT Evolution Plan
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force
IPv6	Internet Protocol Version 6
IS	information system
ISO/IEC	International Organization for Standardization
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology
IV&V	independent verification and validation
J2EE	Java 2 Platform, Enterprise Edition
LAN	Local Area Network

MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPEG	Motion Picture Experts Group
MP3	MPEG-1 Audio Layer-3
NHSITRC	National Human Services Information Technology Resource Center
NIH	National Institutes of Health, an HHS Agency
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
OLAP	On-Line Analytical Processing
OMA	Object Management Architecture
OMG	Object management Group
OS	The Secretary of Health and Human Services, an HHS Agency
OSI	Open Systems Interconnection
PAPD	Planning Advanced Planning Document
PBX	Private Branch Exchange
PC	personal computer
PDA	Personal Digital Assistant
PEP	Plan for the IT Evolution Plan
PROWRA	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act
PSC	Program Support Center, an HHS Agency
QA	quality assurance
QFD	quality function deployment
RAID	Redundant Array of Independent Disks
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROI	Return on Investment
RMP	Risk Management Plan
SACWIS	State Automated Child Welfare Information System
SAE GOA	Society of Automotive Engineers Generic Open Architecture
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, an HHS Agency
SAX	Simple API for XML
SLOC	source lines of code
SOAP	Simple Object Access Protocol
SOW	Statement of Work
SQL	Structured Query Language
	Technical Architecture Framework for Information

TAFIM	Management
TANF	Temporary Aid to Needy Families
TRM	Technical Reference Model
UML	Unified Modeling Language
UPS	Uninterruptible Power Supply
USB	Universal Serial Bus
VBA	Visual Basic for Applications
VPN	Virtual Private Network
WAN	Wide Area Network
WBS	Work Breakdown Structure
Win32	Windows 32-bit interface
WRIT	Welfare Reform Information Technology
W3C	World Wide Web Consortium
XML	Extensible Markup Language
Y2K	Year 2000 Date Problem

Consolidated Artifact Definitions

Artifacts are units of information input and output by the activities. This page consolidates the definitions from across all the activities in the guides. Some artifacts are formal products that have specific content (e.g., the [HS IT Strategic Plan](#)). Others are placeholders for categories of information that are usually context dependent, such as [External Conditions](#).

Artifacts can be realized in many different ways depending on the context in which an activity is performed. The Resources provides a growing list of templates, samples, checklists, or other items to help identify, format, and use some of these artifacts.

Guidance on applying the processes defined by the guides is available in the Customizing the IT Planning and Management Guides page.

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

A

Advance Planning Document (APD). This document records information for the APD process, which is designed to: (1) Describe in broad terms the State's plan for managing the design, development, implementation, and operation of a system that meets Federal, State, and user needs in an efficient, comprehensive, and cost-effective manner; (2) Establish system and HS program performance goals in terms of projected costs and benefits; and (3) Secure Federal financial participation (FFP) for the State.

Advance Planning Document Update (APDU). There are two types of APD Updates (APDUs), which are used to keep HHS informed of the project status, and to obtain continued funding throughout the life of the project:

- *Annual APDUs*, which are used for providing the official project status reports and requesting continued project funding; and
- *As Needed APDUs*, which are used if significant changes occur in the project approach, procurement, methodology, schedule or costs.

Activity Status. This represents the reporting of information about the state of a managed set of activities, such as those for to Plan the Course of Action. The type of status varies depending on the activity.

Agency Technical Architecture Reference Set (A-TARS). This is a virtual document that organizes all the Technical Architecture descriptions and accompanying technical guidelines. The A-TARS content can be rendered in any format that furthers its direct use by system designers, such as type libraries for service interface definitions, online HTML help files, or embedded compound document files.

A-TARS: Agency-Wide System Properties. This portion of the A-TARS describes the essential characteristics that all the Agency's automated systems (or parts) should possess (e.g., availability, privacy, maintainability). These properties guide the architects design decisions and tradeoffs, such as selecting architectural styles (e.g., central host or distributed). These properties act as criteria for determining the adequacy of the technical architecture elements in whole or part. The properties should account for unanticipated changes in the business or technology environment over the duration established for the IT vision. These properties must conform to the principles in the HS IT Strategic Plan.

A-TARS: Data Sources and Business Rules Reference Set. This portion of the A-TARS describes the common data stores, message formats, business rules, and related data, message, and rule processing technologies and guidelines. The goal is to ensure data

interoperability and its validity across the Agency.

A-TARS: Integrated Technology Descriptions. This portion of the A-TARS describes the way the technology elements are assembled to form a set of interacting computing platforms. The top-level entities that are described are the platforms or specialized equipments, data sources, and their interconnections.

A-TARS: Networking Reference Set. This portion of the A-TARS describes essential characteristics, assumptions, and guidelines for networking the Enterprise computing platforms within and external to the HS Agency.

A-TARS: Platform, Equipment, and Solutions Reference Set. This portion of the A-TARS describes the significant hardware and/or software configurations that are to be used across the Agency (e.g., existing legacy systems, functional user desktop or application servers configurations, and prepackaged solutions).

A-TARS: Services Reference Set. This portion of the A-TARS describes the elementary services that are defined for the Agency. The definition includes the service interfaces, execution behavior, reference implementations and other information essential to consistently procuring, building, and deploying common, reusable services. The services are organized according to service areas in accordance with the Agency Technical Reference Model.

A-TARS: Agency Standards Reference Set. This portion of the A-TARS consolidates the list of Agency standards and how they have been adapted. These can be consolidated into one place or distributed across the other parts of the A-TARS, as needed.

A-TARS: TRM Description. This portion of the A-TARS describes the Agency's Technical Reference Model. This model categorizes and describes the services and their relationship to one another in accordance with a conceptual model, such as the Open Software Environment.

A-TARS: Technology Boundaries Descriptions. This portion of the A-TARS describes the external entities and their interaction across the Agency's technology boundaries. This establishes the essential characteristics for the interaction platforms and devices.

A-TARS: Technology Element Descriptions. This represents the aggregation of four portions of the A-TARS: Data Sources and Business Rules Reference Set; Network Reference Set; Platform, Equipment, and Solutions Reference Set; and Services Reference Set. These describe the basic building blocks from which the Agency systems are constructed.

A-TARS: Technology Guidelines Reference Set. This portion of the A-TARS provides technical and management guidelines to the developers and users of the A-TARS. Architects and developers will apply these guidelines to promote consistent definition, presentation, and implementation of the Agency technical elements. This may include process or product guides, such as engineering guides (coding, design, testing), configuration management guides (configuration identification), and vendor qualification (evaluating compliance to the ATA).

AIS Design and Implementation Information. This represents descriptions of the existing automated systems. This information accurately reflects the state of the existing technology. This may include process (e.g., engineering practices such as tools and methodologies), as well as products (e.g., existing software products or components) information.

Ancillary Design Information. This represents the additional design information available to users of the A-TARS. This information is not necessarily a formal part of the A-TARS. This additional data may include design notes, trade studies, reference

