InCommon Regional Partners

Discussions and Progress

Outline

- The Problem
- Our Approach
- Issues, Risks, Opportunities
- Decisions & Options
- Reference Documents

The Problem: Extend the value of federation to smaller institutions

InCommon doesn't scale well to lots of smaller institutions
- The overall cost to federate all of a state's K12 districts is too high
- smaller institutions often have nothing to federate

Our Approach

- MCNC and InCommon intensely collaborated to identify and completely flesh out a model that works
- focus on one model that works in one instance - don't try to boil the ocean.
- break down InCommon business and technical features into their atomic parts and rearrange to fit MCNC+K12
- determine what agreements are needed to support the model and built "term sheets" for those agreements

Our Approach – 2

- Regional model with MCNC: 2 Roles

  1. Steward: Representing & Registering third-parties directly with InCommon
  2. Registration Authority Agent with InCommon: Metadata Verification and Support

Opportunities, Risks, Issues

- Opportunity for Growth and Support: Regionals may ...
  - Have existing relationships with K12 and other constituents
  - Aggregate technical solutions & support for a given region
- Risks:
  - Introduction of third-party relationships in InCommon. (Currently cannot)
    - Other sectors with varying risk responses: K12, State Gov, Health Care, Law Enforcement, Defense sector
  - Trust: Regionals with divergent policies and practices
- Issues
  - Participant rights & responsibilities vs. third-party Represented Organization
  - Governance & Representation of third-parties

Decisions and Options

1. How Open is the Tent? How many sectors/organization types allowed via third-party Stewards?
2. Pricing Model criteria: ability to pay, level of work-and-risk share
3. Conflicts of Interest & Separate of trusted roles: Technical Host, Steward, DNS administrator, InCommon Registration Authority Agent
4. Steward role available to Regional optical Network providers, and/or other non- or for-profits?
   a. State educational divisions
   b. Library aggregators such as OCLC
5. How InCommon Decides
   a. Internet2 Staff
   b. InCommon Steering
   c. InCommon Participants

New and Modified Documents - 1

- [Terms for the Steward Participation Class](#)
  - Defines the responsibilities of Stewards and InCommon for support of Represented Organizations (i.e. constituents).
  - Acting on behalf of Represented Organizations
  - Providing support, documentation, training, *etc*.
- [Terms for Registration Authority Agents](#)
  - Defines the responsibilities of Registration Authority Agents (RAA) and InCommon in the RAAs actions (identity vetting of organizational contacts, metadata submission) on behalf of InCommon.
- [Terms for MCNC Represented Organizations](#)
  - Example term sheet for the agreement between a Steward and a Represented Organization.
  - Provides linkages from the InCommon Participation Agreement for common governance and obligations

New and Modified Documents - 2

- [Modifications to the InCommon Participation Agreement](#)
  - Describe the roles of Stewards and Represented Organizations
- [Modifications to the InCommon Federation Operating Policies and Practices (FOPP)](#)
  - Define the Steward Participation Class.
  - Define the types of Represented Organizations that are allowed.
  - Acknowledge that InCommon may delegate certain tasks to Registration Authority Agents.
- One of five models identified
  - [Simplified Partnership Models for InCommon Regionals V1.0](#)