



Information Technology Laboratory

Common Delivery Framework

Background Delivery of science and engineering (S&E) via the Web is a strategy for corporate management by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) of all the technologies that support S&E applications. The primary purpose of this strategy is to reduce costs for developing and applying S&E technologies. One of the primary aspects of the S&E strategy is Technology Integration, an approach to manage software guidance and capabilities and resources for application developers in a consistent, corporate context, called the Common Delivery Framework (CDF). This framework provides a Web accessible library of software resources and technical guidance that comprise the “raw materials” that USACE developers, contractors, and partners will use to develop specific science and engineering applications and suites of applications, called Product Lines and Product Suites.

Objective(s) The overarching objectives of CDF are to:

- Develop a framework that meets USACE S&E objectives.
- Ensure the security, integrity, and availability of S&E functionality and information.
- Provide guidance to support the exploitation of the CDF.
- Cultivate coordination and collaboration within USACE programs.
- Support life-cycle management of USACE S&E information and technologies.
- Provide a common technology baseline.
- Provide a common information/functionality baseline.

Technology The technology push today deals with how to consolidate information in a way to improve the business process. Industry’s acceptance of the Web as the information delivery pipeline has sparked the technology industry to develop middleware standards that describe how information is located and shared over the Web. The W3C (World-Wide Web Consortium) is the lead for defining Internet-based standards. These Web-based technologies address interoperability and security and provide the baseline for all systems, new and old, to work together to improve how technology and information are delivered to customers, business partners, and employees. Industry has fully embraced the W3C standards as the baseline for interoperability. Typically, they use the trendy term “framework.” However, the focus of industry is to provide a broad set of capabilities that can be applied to many business areas. The CDF molds these capabilities into a common approach that USACE applies to technology delivery.

Benefits CDF provides the operational platform to achieve cost reductions and improved customer service through integration of technical approaches, managed reuse of component capabilities, and interoperability of data and tools.

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