Framework for Interoperable Media Services at NAB 2017

FIMS is a joint project of the Advanced Media Workflow Association (AMWA) and the European Broadcasting Union (EBU).

The Framework for Interoperable Media Services (FIMS) provides a way to build a system architecture that brings business agility and cost-effectiveness.

Already used successfully for fixed, corporate infrastructure, the FIMS approach has been widely adopted across media enterprises as a way to manage complex file-based workflows with commodity IT technology.

The set of common service interfaces has been enriched since FIMS received the IBC Judges Prize in 2012. Released for NAB 2017, FIMS 1.3 addresses advanced repository management and automatic metadata extraction.

Cloud technologies are taking business agility to a level unconstrained by buildings or locations, as compute, storage and networking become automated services on the Internet. A refreshed FIMS takes advantage of these server-less services, allowing media workflows to be provisioned and scaled to meet demand.

Presentations and demonstrations at NAB 2017 will show the application of new FIMS developments that use state-of-the-art toolsets provided by Amazon Web Services. Media workflows that include capture, transform, transfer and automatic metadata extraction services will be run in the cloud with an explanation by industry experts. These will be shown in combination with a content repository that is built on cloud object storage and a semantic data store.

Announced at the show will be "FIMS in the Cloud" as a light-touch set of best practices and useful patterns for applying cloud technology to building media workflows with interoperating software services. Alongside the presentations, FIMS will provide and promote open-source APIs, data models and code for the benefit of the industry.
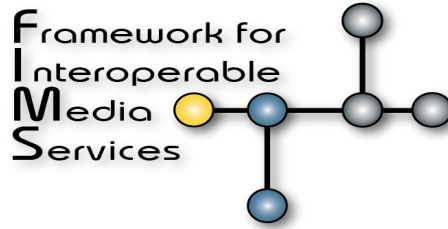
This work is leading FIMS to a greater focus on RESTful services, using simple HTTP commands like GET, POST, PUT. This complements the SOAP formalism used in writing the FIMS specifications and schemas.

As a REST job is directly related to the capabilities of the product it is interfaced with, this makes the task significantly easier for system integrators to rapidly assess if a product offers the desired functionalities. The FIMS proposal is that products shall be exposed as RESTful services, which should help migration into new paradigms like IP production.

FIMS proposes a set of best practices on the definition of RESTful services and capability discovery. It also comes with:-
• a data model,
• recommended structures for Quality Control and Automatic Metadata Extraction reports,
• rules on the deployment of asynchronous services managing long-running jobs and
• the CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) management of repositories through RESTful services.

And, of course, FIMS can also be implemented using SOAP.

A major benefit of FIMS is that it releases content providers from the architectural burden, giving them more time to concentrate on their core business - efficiently creating and managing content and its associated metadata.

For further information,
visit www.FIMS.tv

To explore how FIMS can help your organisation,
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