Metadata Usage Report

For

Government On-Line Metadata Working Group

E-Learning Sub-group

By

Online-Learning.com

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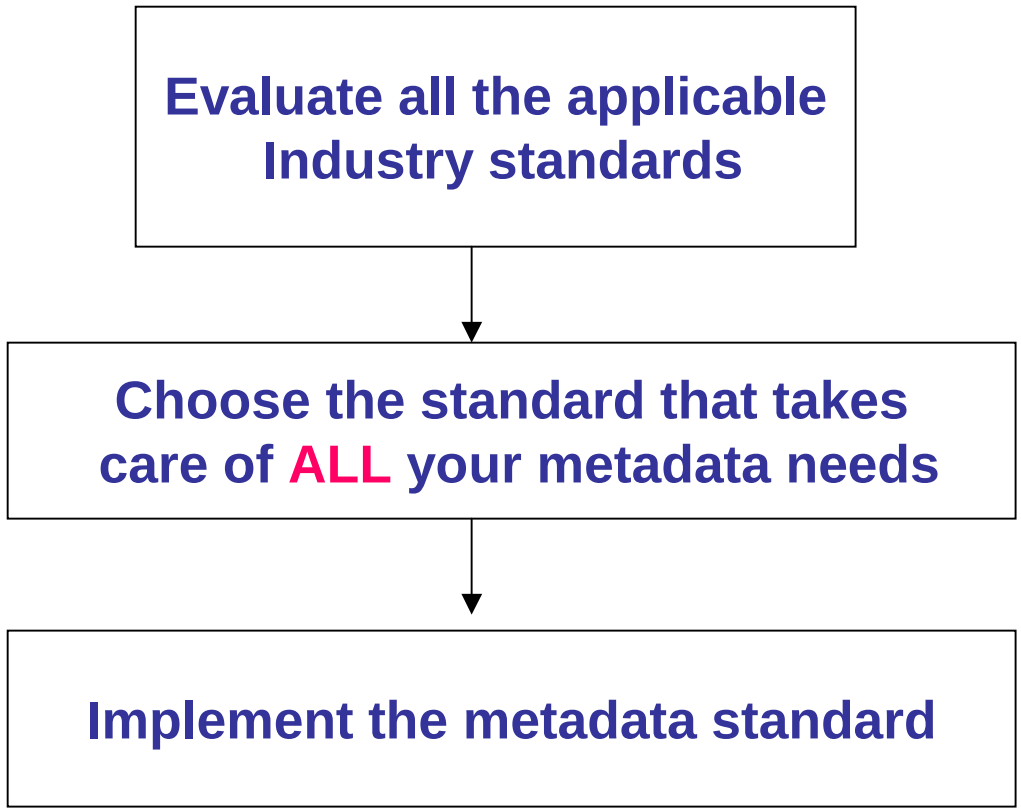
Choosing Metadata

Theoretical

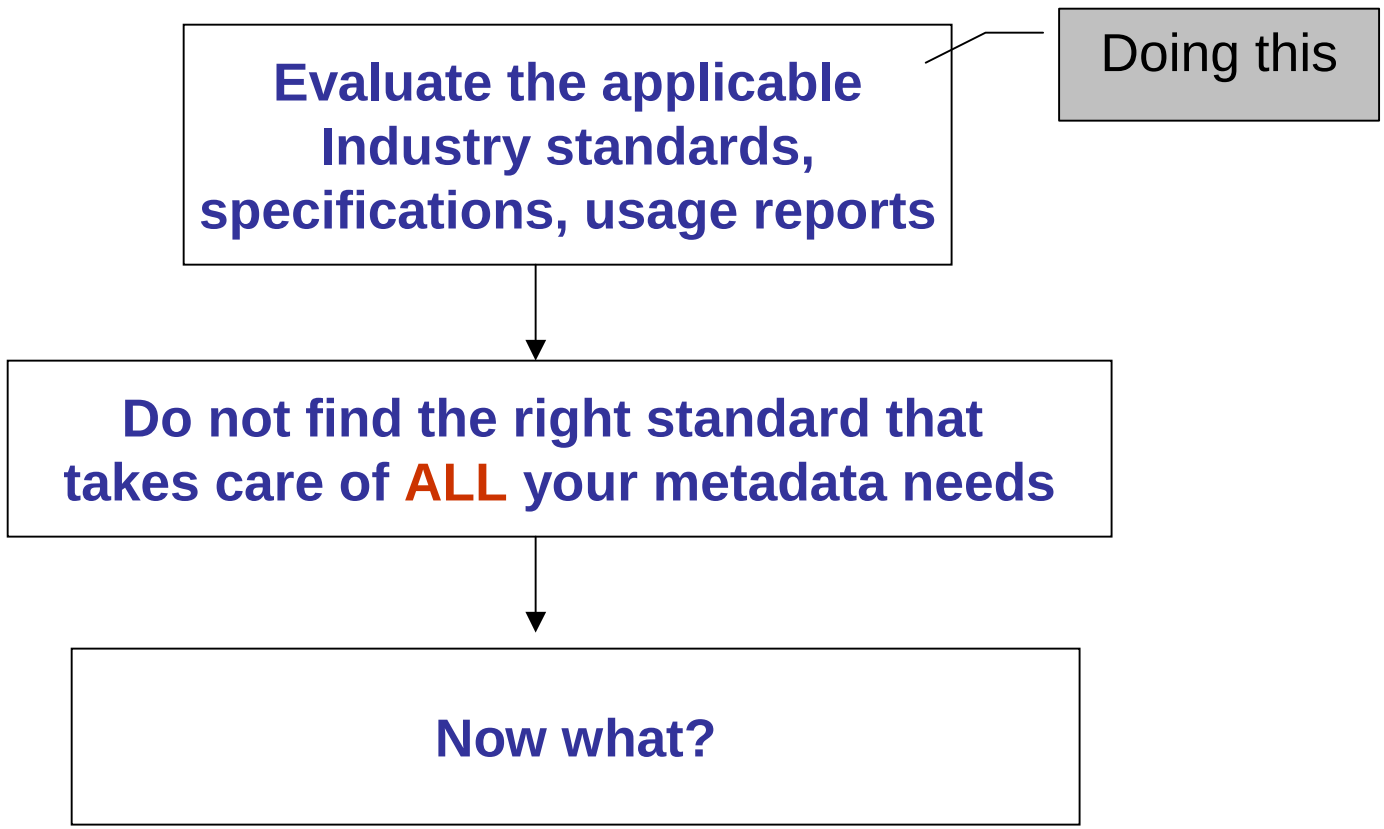
Real World

Flexible Approach

Theoretical



Real World



Evaluate Metadata Usage

IEEE LOM

IMS

SCORM, CanCore, ARIADNE

SearchLT

Dublin Core

EdNA, Learning Federation

GEM

Usage

CAREO, CEN, DNER&LO, EASEL, Educause, eduSource, Edutella, EUN, FAILTE, MEG, MILO, NC, NGfL, Prometeus, RESL, SeSDL, TargeTeam, VEC, VES, UKOLN

Survey Work by CETIS, DNER, CanCore

➔ **The report**

What next?

Industry standards do not fit all your needs

Not the right elements…
Too few or too many elements…

More detailed requirements for metadata

Limited or restricted vocabulary…
Need more details? Or less?
Need different elements…
Need better documentation, guidelines, examples…

More flexible approach needed

What are the options ?

The Options

Implement an industry standard without addressing specific needs

Live with the elements the industry standard recommends

Implement a custom approach

Build a metadata standard from scratch that suits the GOL MWG

Implement a combination

Use an industry standard (or application profile)
Customize the metadata fields and vocabulary as needed
Modify the documentation and guidelines

Industry Standard vs. Custom Approach

Industry Standard	Custom Approach
Little or no flexibility (limited to the specification)	**Flexible**
Accepted and communicated to 3rd parties	**Unknown in the industry and by 3rd parties**
Finalized DTD or Schema	**New/own DTD or Schema**
Finalized metadata schema/specification and documentation	**Create metadata schema specification and documentation from scratch**

Industry Standard + Custom Approach

- **Accept a core element set that you can extend (IEEE LOM)**
- **Adopt a flexible approach for adding new elements (Classification)**
- **Choose an application profile with good documentation (CanCore)**
- **Extend vocabulary, as needed**

- **Core element set in standard is already known and accepted by 3rd parties -- need only communicate any new elements**
- **Modify an existing DTD or Schema, if necessary (less work)**
- **Modify existing documentation and guidelines (less work)**

➔Now have avenue to communicate

- new elements to the standard group
- new vocabulary to application profile group

Recommendation

- **Recommend IEEE LOM (IMS V1.2.1) standard**
  - Most specifications aligning to LOM in some manner
- **Follow CanCore Application Profile to describe LOs**
  - Compatible with SCORM, ARIADNE
  - Good guidelines and examples
  - Applicable to Canadian resources
- **Establish common practice for implementing metadata: mandatory set, vocabulary, taxonomy…**
- **Don’t be fooled - Dublin Core will likely still be used to describe other objects**
- **Create IEEE LOM (IMS) to DC mapping**
- **Create DC to IEEE LOM (IMS) mapping**
- **Determine tools for locating learning objects**

Continuous Activities

- **Monitor Metadata activity based on report contacts**
  - Especially IMS, SCORM, CanCore developments
  - Provide feedback, participate in surveys, share experiences
- **Keep in contact with Phil Barker**
  - follow and request current case study research
- **Follow *CETIS Metadata Special Interest Group* work**
- **Join CETIS Metadata listserv**
- **Be consistent across the government learning objects**
- **Remember: metadata usage is a moving target**

Questions