EDS Supports Your Application’s Identity Data Needs

The University of Arizona's Enterprise Directory Service (EDS) provides a repository of identity data—including biographic, demographic, role- and membership-related attributes—for students, faculty, staff, departmental sponsored visitors and others. Services can use the EDS in support of access control decisions, authorization, and user personalization via simple, yet secure, programming interfaces easily leveraged in any application environment.

The EDS is also a base technology supporting the UA Shibboleth Identity Provider—tying authentication and authorization together (with little-to-no programming required).

What EDS Means to Systems and Users

Here are some high-level benefits of an enterprise directory that may be of interest to users and IT support staff:

- Consistent policy-based access to directory information.
- Accurate and timely online directory information.
- Support for cross-institutional work and communications.
- Directory data on individuals today. (In the future: courses, groups, and other associative elements).
- Enables on-line work processes, including work routing.
- Effective and efficient maintenance of data (directory remains online to process updates).
- Single point of contact for a wide range of data and information eliminates the need for "shadow" data systems.
- Consistent use of identifiers.
- Consistent directory architecture resulting in "one-stop shopping" experience for the user.
- Centralized policies for directory information allows maximum flexibility while ensuring required security and consistency of data.
- Simplified access mechanisms (LDAP and DSML) provide application developers access to required person data with minimal set-up and effort (i.e., no JDBC, SQL queries, etc).

For more information, please contact UITS-IIA@listserv.arizona.edu