

STATE SERVICES COMMISSION
Te Komihana O Ngā Tari Kāwanatanga



**New Zealand E-government
Interoperability Framework
(NZ e-GIF)**

Version 3.0

INTRODUCTION

September 2005

State Services Commission

1 Foreword

The E-government Interoperability Framework (e-GIF) was first issued in February 2002. This version (3.0) is the seventh edition that has been published.

In the three and a half years since the initial launch, we have seen tremendous change in New Zealand, both in the public sector and in wider society. Technology continues to advance and government agencies' business needs continue to evolve in response to the changes in technology and society. The challenges and opportunities these changes present continue to demand innovative and collaborative solutions from government agencies.

Since 2002, the e-GIF has proved to be a significant tool for enabling agencies to work together and for all-of-government initiatives. By promoting collaboration and the efficient use of resources, the e-GIF contributes to the State Services Development Goals of Networked, Coordinated and Accessible State Services.

The e-GIF has formed the foundation of a number of important e-government initiatives. The framework has assisted collaboration between government agencies, resulting in better integration of services for New Zealanders. For example:

- Customers can now register for a company IRD number online at the same time as incorporating a company. The service eliminates the need for new companies to deal with the Companies Office and Inland Revenue separately. It makes the registration process faster by eliminating duplication of information between agencies and also the need to provide paper based IRD number applications.
- SEEMail, the Secure Electronic Environment Mail standard, assists the secure exchange of email and attachments using the Internet, and is now used by 51 government agencies.
- www.govt.nz, the all-of-government web portal, uses e-GIF standards to collect information about government services from a wide range of government agencies and provides an online single point of access for New Zealanders.

These online services and resources have been made possible by the e-GIF, and by the people from across government who have worked together on this version, and all the earlier versions, of the framework.

Over the coming years standards will continue to be added to the e-GIF, and the framework will grow to accommodate them.

We welcome the publication of the latest version and acknowledge the amount of collaborative effort across government to achieve this. We are also confident that this valuable resource will continue to provide the foundation for future e-government initiatives across the State Services.

Laurence Millar | Warren Tucker

About e-GIF Documentation

The E-government Interoperability Framework (e-GIF) version 3.0, is divided into three documents:

- Part I: Standards
- Part II: Policy
- Part III: Appendixes.

Below are short descriptions of each document and its intended audiences.

Part I: Standards

Part I focuses on the actual standards that make up the e-GIF. The intended audience for the Standards part includes:

- State Sector Information Technology (IT) strategists;
- Technical Analysts;
- Programme and Project Managers; and
- anyone planning services requiring interoperability.

It includes the following sections:

- **How to read the standards** – description of the layer model used to categorise the standards; what the statuses for each standard mean; links to related documentation; and changes from the last e-GIF;
- **E-GIF standards** – the standards, in table format, broken down by category; and
- **E-government services** – services that are part of the e-government programme, fully support interoperability, and are freely available to the agencies.

Part II: Policy

Part II outlines the policy behind the e-GIF and its development. The intended audience for the Policy section includes:

- Policy Analysts;
- Advisors;
- Business Analysts; and
- anyone involved with interoperability strategy and projects.

It includes the following sections:

- **What is the e-GIF?** – short descriptions of e-government, interoperability, and the e-GIF; how the e-GIF will benefit New Zealand; and how the e-GIF is maintained;
- **Who must comply and when?** – who must comply with the e-GIF, how to transition to e-GIF compliance, exemptions and special provisions;
- **Principles** – short descriptions of anticipated outcomes of the e-GIF, requirements for project management and operational management, and governance principles; and
- **Developing the e-GIF** – outlines of procedures for extending the e-GIF, submitting a new standard, developing the framework; and issues under review or proposed for future working groups.

Part III: Resources

Part III contains resources related to the e-GIF. The intended audience for the Appendixes are all readers of the e-GIF.

It includes the following sections:

- **Abbreviations** – definitions of abbreviations and acronyms used in the e-GIF;
- **History of the e-GIF** – review of stages in the e-GIF's development, including a Change Log;
- **References and background information** – descriptions and links to further information related to the e-GIF; and
- **URLs referenced in e-GIF** – full URLs for all hyperlinks in the e-GIF documentation.