DM Forum and the Meta Data Symposium 2006
Enterprise Architecture and MetaData Management:
Strategic Directions for Your Organization

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Each fall, DM Forum (http://www.dmforum.org) hosts a Meta Data symposium in New York City where experts in metadata management and other enterprise activities gather to present their approaches to various challenges faced by data management professionals in all industries, regardless of the organization's size. The 2006 conference is scheduled for Friday, October 27 at the Radisson Broadway Executive Conference Center - on Herald Square near the Times Square theatre district.

DM Forum was founded to serve as a vehicle for the dissemination of knowledge on all matters relating to the challenges and opportunities facing individuals and organizations in managing data as an important asset. As such, DM Forum offers seminars, symposia, discussion groups and other information exchange methods to the data management community. Topics for DM Forum members' attention include: database management, data planning, data modeling, data repository and metadata management, data-driven methodologies, data-oriented case, data warehousing, and data security, among others. DM Forum also hosts an annual data warehouse conference in Washington, DC that attracts many leaders in the data management community and serves as another much-anticipated event for DM professionals.

The 2006 Meta Data Symposium speaker list and topics show that DM Forum is able to attract both practioners and thought leaders in metadata and information management. Bill Inmon, the "Father of Data Warehousing" will present the keynote address: "Integrating Metadata from Across the Enterprise: Solutions for Data Warehousing and Enterprise Architecture". Bill is one of the most accomplished speakers and his presentations are always a source valuable insight and serve as a true educational experience.   Bill plans to share some of the best for incorporating meta data into data warehousing, as part of an enterprise architecture. In this presentation Bill will offer some concepts and approaches to implementing these concepts, as he does in his books and column in DM Review (http://www.dmreview.com) and the Inmon website: http://www.inmoncif.com.

Meta Data management is extremely important for the financial services industry, and the 2006 Meta Data Symposium has two presentations from leading financial organizations who will demonstrate the ways their companies are using metadata to advance the cause of enterprise architecture and information management.

Rodger Nixon, Vice President of Information Technology at Credit Suisse First Boston (Credit Suisse USA) and a meta data management thought leader will present "Data Model Reuse And Metadata At Credit Suisse". Case studies are considered an excellent way for practioners and researchers to examine the application of concepts in a particular setting to determine if the actual results diverge from expectations. In the meta data management arena, case studies can demonstrate how one situation can be used as a foundation for applying and refining best practices.

As is the case with all aspects of the information systems realm, meta data is progressing through a life cycle. John Singer, Enterprise Data Architect for Mastercard International will give an overview of the next "big thing" in meta data in his presentation "Taxonomies, Content Management, XML And Web 2.0: Moving From Traditional Metadata To 'New Age' Metadata". This presentation should provide insight for meta data management professionals around what to look for as their organizations explore the areas of taxonomies and content management in the next version of the World Wide Web.

This year, for the first time, DM Forum is offering a pre-symposium full-day tutorial for those interested in expanding their education in meta data management. The inaugural tutorial "Meta Data Management Strategy: A Practical Approach" will be presented by Anne Marie Smith, Principal Consultant and Director of Education for EWSolutions, a leading information management consulting organization. Anne Marie's presentation is designed to demonstrate the concepts of developing a meta data strategy for any organization in a workshop format. In this workshop, attendees will be able to create the main artifacts of a meta data strategy for their individual circumstances. As a frequent lecturer in information management and instructor, Anne Marie's workshops are always engaging and full of useful information and exercises. Attendees to her events come prepared to work and to have fun and to learn!

All members of the data management community can benefit from attending DM Forum's seminars, including their annual Data Warehouse conference. For more information on DM Forum, their conferences/seminars and other events, visit http://www.dmforum.org.

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Anne Marie Smith is a highly acclaimed author and speaker in the fields of data stewardship, data governance, data warehousing, data modeling and metadata management. She holds a doctorate in Management Information Systems and has taught at LaSalle University. Anne Marie serves on the board of directors of DAMA International and is an expert advisor to DM Review's *Ask the Experts. Anne Marie is the Director of Education and Principal Consultant at EWSolutions, a GSA schedule partner and systems integrator dedicated to providing companies and government agencies with best-in-class business intelligence solutions using data warehousing, enterprise architecture and managed metadata environment technologies (www.EWSolutions.com). She is also an advisor to the DM Forum (http://www.dmforum.org). Anne Marie may be reached directly via email at AMSmith@EWSolutions.com.*