Digital Interoperability in Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and Legal Processes

One Time Data Migrations and Continuous Integrations

What drives the need for Interoperability?

In a digital evidence workflow; from Law Enforcement Agencies to Prosecutors, to Defense Counsel, to Courts and finally on to Records, there are various platforms (i.e. DEMS, CMS, RMS) to manage it all, at each step in the process. Each LEA can have their own DEMS from a myriad of vendors and the Prosecutors can have as many CMS providers to choose from. When it comes to sharing digital media from system to system there is no standard in the market. There is no interoperability between the platforms. This forces the LEAs, Prosecutors, Defense Council, Courts, and Records to do the best they can with what they've got. Usually this means the LEAs become IT support for the proprietary digital media, and provide the evidence on DVDs, thumb drives, HDDs, and anything that can store the amount of evidence they've gathered for the case.

Digital media without metadata is just a collection of files and pictures. The various platforms, direct vendors, direct digital evidence sources, and general computing platforms have digital assets with some form of data that manages, presents, shares, secures and indexes them. Law Enforcement, Public Safety Agencies, and Legal Systems have to work together for the system to process incidents and crimes. Each step of the process requires the sharing of digital data in some form, and in the siloes created by different platforms, the data is lost all too often; making for manual operations and tasks resulting in "Digital Backlog."

If you had a Magic Wand?

If data can flow from one system to another in a standard form, then Interoperability becomes a more realistic goal. Many industries have gone through the Interoperability challenge in the last 2 decades: television broadcast standards; telco technology sharing in communications, computing interoperability, and so on. Moving data between systems in a more uniform manner reduces redundant data entry, enhances searchability, reduces the number of solutions users must access to "get the job done," and reduces the Digital Backlog. A magic wand in this instance is found in middleware that moves data from one system to another, or to multiple systems, and creates an index of the larger subset to manage, search, share, secure, and archive digital evidence.

Real-World Problems

There are many real-world problems that need migrations and integrations. One example is migrations from old systems, in-car video, body worn camera, photo systems, etc. need to be migrated to a new system for single source management. Another example is integrations where video files and metadata are being pulled from live bus or rail systems and sent to backend software ongoingly. These scenarios are vital to upkeep within a typical daily request from litigation.

Real-World Solutions

DWS's Data-Central Middleware (DC) is the solution to the interoperability needs in many industries.

Data-Central addresses proper and affordable solutions for evidence managing. **DC** is middleware specifically written with digital evidence processing and security complications in mind. The **DWS** team not only has the software, but the experience to deal with these issues properly and efficiently. If you are challenged by current technology, budgets, and time-consuming manual processes and would like a demo or more information on **DWS's Data-Central** product, please **CLICK HERE**.

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