The DataPortability Project

Oct/Nov 2008 Highlights

DataPortability Project 'Vision and Mission' Ratified and Published

Over the last three months, the DataPortability Project Steering Committee along with additional Project member participants have been busy executing on very specific items that will ensure that the Project continues to move forward and delivers on the original goal that the marketplace embraced in early 2008. One of these tasks was to complete and ratify the official Vision and Mission statement of the DataPortability Project.

Following standard processes the statement is divided into two parts. A *Vision statement* that defines the desired or intended future state of the project in terms of its fundamental objective and/or strategic direction. And the *Mission statement* which defines the fundamental purpose of the Project basically describing why it exists.

A team led by Elias Bizannes had its work ratified on October 27 2008, and the now official Vision and Mission of the DataPortability Project reads as follows :

Vision -

Data portability enables a borderless experience, where people can move easily between network services, reusing data they provide while controlling their privacy and respecting the privacy of others.

Mission-

To help people to use and protect the data they create on networked services, and to advocate for compliance with the values of DataPortability. [cont. pg. 2]

"My laptop stickers"-
including the DataPortability collectors edition sticker by ''the rab'

What is the DataPortability Project Monthly report?

Since the emergence of the project in November 2007, a every month since, the Project has continued to grow, while concrete outputs are developed and delivered. This report aims to highlight things that affect and drive the DataPortability project.

Announcing the new DataPortability Project Community Manager: Danny Housseas

As the DataPortability Project continues to grow and more and more users, vendors and developers talk and ask questions about data portability, our new Community Manager will become a leader in the DataPortability Project's External Communications Task Force to ensure that we continue to address the needs of the community.

Danny Housseas is an entrepreneur, mobile marketing evangelist and collaboration system specialist who believes in the Vision and Mission of the DataPortability Project and will be helping us move our objectives forward. Congrats and Welcome Danny!

What is the DataPortability Project?:

♣ Mission: To help people to use and protect the data they create on networked services, and to advocate for compliance with the values of DataPortability.

♣ Definition: The ability to reuse data you provide while controlling your privacy and respecting the privacy of others.

Praise for the Monthly Report :

"The DataPortability Project Report is the first place I go to stay informed about the group's accomplishments, goals and challenges."
-Dave Evans, Digicraft
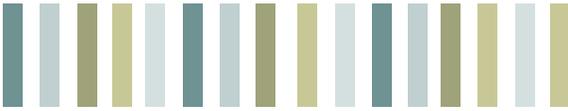
Get Involved

Oct/Nov Coverage Highlights:

Highlights of news coverage on data portability topics. You can also check out who's saying and writing about data portability in the Press Room or in this collection of news feeds that includes many bloggers who cover the subject

- Yahoo and AOL Enhancing OpenID with Data Portability via the "Simple Registration" Extension. Nov 20th The Real McCrea
- Is Data Portability Safe? - Nov 20th. Chris Saad
- You don't nor need to own your data- Nov 17th. Elias Bizannes
- Facebook, Microsoft and Data Portability– Nov 14th The Real McCrea
- DataPortability - Please Succeed– Correlate. Nov 12th Lou Paglia
- Data Portability, openID, and the Walled Garden in Book Publishing– Nov 9th –Index MB
- Tim O'reilly speaks about Data Portability | Andrea Vascellari
- Data portability startup Gnip takes $3.5M second round (Tech Confidential - VC Ratings
- Life in the Cloud: Salesforce's Dreamland: Data Portability, Interoperability and Cloud Monopolies ElasticVapor
- The DataWeb - Opinion Column by Chris Saad. Oct 30th 2008
- Facebook Connect and OpenID Relationship Status: "It's Complicated" - John McCrea, TechCrunch IT Oct 22th
- Who Will Control Your Data in the Web 3.0 World? - ReadWriteWeb - Oct 18th

How do I get Involved?

There are various ways to get involve and support the Data Portability Project.

Here are four great ways:

1. Subscribe to the Announce Only Mailing List (Infrequent and milestone updates from the project)
2. Read the Monthly Reports
3. Follow the DataPortability Calendar (Keep track of upcoming events, calls, and meetings)
4. Talk it up on the General Mailing List and Discussion

For questions or more information about this monthly report:
E-mail: danielavbarbosa@gmail.com

GET INVOLVED

Global Events

Designing for DataPortability Session at Mashup Camp

Mashup Camp Dataportability sessions. "There are lots of great things happening in the world of data portability and in particular with the DataPortability organization. The conversation was brisk, intense, and spanned many aspects of the current and envisioned state of data portability" - Steve Repetti . More photos MashupCamp..

DataPortability Vision and Mission continued from front page....

For the user

With data portability, you can bring your identity, friends, conversations, files and histories with you, without having to manually add them to each new service. Each of the services you use can draw on this information relevant to the context. As your experiences accumulate and you add or change data, this information will update on other sites and services if you permit it, without having to revisit others to re-enter it.

For the Service Provider

With cross-system data access, interoperability, and portability, people can bring their identities, friends, conversations, files, and histories with them to your service, cutting down on the need for form-filling which can drive people away. With minimal effort on the part of new customers, you can tailor services to suit them. When your customers browse networked services and accumulate experiences, this information can update on your service, if people permit it. Your relationship remains up-to-date and you can adapt your services in response, even when they don't visit. With mutual control and mutual benefit, your relationships remain relevant, encouraging continued usage.

Data portability is a new approach, where it is easier to use and deliver services. This frictionless movement through the network of services fosters stronger relationships between people and services providers and helps build a healthy networked ecosystem.

Our Governance model from Conception to Implementation– *by Elias Bizannes*

Earlier this year, the DataPortability Project (aka DataPortability.org) adopted a governance model. In part, this was to give a formal recognition for how decisions would be made (ie, who had authority and what exactly). But less publicized, was that this was a means of creating a process to get work done. Below is an understanding of what the DataPortability Project is, and with that understanding, you will hopefully understand how we now operate and are encouraged to join us.

The DataPortability Project is an organization that advocates a vision. It is a "special interest group" with an agenda to pursue a vision as defined by its participants. The efforts of the Project are to encourage, develop, and pursue activities that fulfill this vision. You can read more about our vision & mission here (http://wiki.dataportability.org/x/SoAO).

When it comes to identifying what the Project creates, it is essentially likened to intangible products. "Success" for an idea within its scope is implementation by organizations such as companies or governments as well as general support by consumers and customers.

DataPortability products

There are three stages in the lifecycle of a product.

1) Initiation
A concept is conceived of. It requires resources to extend on the concept - intellectual capital from other people, tools to build on the original concept, as well as goals such as understanding what the desired end outcome is by a certain time frame. These resources and goals need to be identified. This is different from an idea, which are a dime a dozen: the difference here, is that if you are willing to proceed (by posting on our general mailing list and reaching out), you are therefore initiating.

2) Production
Once resources have been mobilized, it requires execution to turn the concept into a deliverable. Given some concepts may simply be a view of how the world should act, the deliverable can be a document describing the vision. Desire for a type of functionality can come in the deliverable of a specification of applying technology a certain way. Regardless, the point of this phase is to work towards producing a product organization has incubated that have impacts on other entities. [cont. pg. 3]

3) Distribution

Once a product has been created, it requires adoption for it to be successful. This may involve education, promotion, or simply discussions with stakeholder entities.

The workflow of the DataPortability Project recognizes each of the above stages as separate but related stages. Different needs are required at different stages, and the enforcement of a procedure in one stage may be detrimental for it in another stage.

For initiation, we try to encourage people to mobilize - loose approval mechanisms, flexibility, resources to access other people. With production, we need to mandate process is followed. This means not just adequate meeting protocol, but also the communication of certain things like what the end goal will be. Distribution is effectively when a deliverable becomes official policy of the Project: assigned people who can speak about the product are required. Also very tight rules will be required about its representation externally, as the way it is communicated to the external marketplace will affect the DataPortability Project's credibility.

DataPortability - the organization

The DataPortability project as an organization recognizes it has two types of groups critical to its success: 'generators of value' and 'executors of value'. The generators are those who are involved in the product lifecycle described above. They produce recommendations and implementations that are in line with our vision. In the external marketplace, they effectively become the "products" of the DataPortability Project ie, Initiatives that the organization has incubated that have impacts on other entities.

The executors are those that make the DataPortability organization function, and without them, would not be able to support the generators nor maintain and increase the value of the DataPortability Projects existence.

We also recognise, that as an online community, we at core have two assets:

> * the DataPortability brand. We have become a influential voice in the industry, and hopefully in the future, of our world.
> * the DataPortability community. We do not close off our community - we keep it as open as possible. We also quite uniquely have people involved from all part of the   world, with some vary diverse backgrounds.

The above context will now help you understand the four organs of the DataPortability Project: The Plenary, the Steering Group, Action groups and task forces.

The Dataportability plenary are those in our community who have "opted-in" to become voting members. You will be reognised as one by simply contacting the Secretary. No membership fees and no initiation ceremonies - just you putting your hand up.

Hopefully the above summary can help you now understand the DataPortability Project. We certainly believe that our governance model is quite innovative, and its development was a worthwhile investment for our future.

What it all comes down to is this and it's quite simple really: people post ideas on our general mailing list, and they either die a natural death or get picked up to continue. People activate a task force, and have a defined process on how to operate. If that idea turns out to be an ongoing output, it then gets formally incorporated in the functions of the Dataportability Project. And central to all this, an open community elects, detects, and reflects on what the DataPortability Project should be doing. Accountable, transparent and open; global, diverse, and independent.

Got any questions?

Please contact the vice-chair of the Steering Group Elias Bizannes who was one of the key architects for this workflow model and authored this article via e-mail at : elias.bizannes@gmail.com .

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GET INVOLVED

Global Events

Future of Technology in Education Event 2008

Future of Technology in Education Event 2008. Session on 'Why portability matters' by Ian Forrester . Ian Forrester heads up the BBC's Backstage, a developer/designer network and is an early supporter of Data Portability.

- Photo by Rain Rabbit.

What are the DataPortability Task Forces?

Based on the DataPortability Goverance Model, Task Forces (Special committees) are entities created to carry out a specific task. In the last few months various Task Forces have been busy moving forward the DataPortability project including the ones that are addressed here.

All DataPortability Project Task Forces are open to the public– please contact the specific Taskforce chairperson or Danny Housseas for more info or let us know if you have an idea for a new Task Force.

In the last three months various Task Forces have been busy moving forward the DataPortability project including the following:

DataPortability Healthcare Task Force: [Chair: Anthony Broad-Crawford]

The Charter of the DataPortability Healthcare Task Force is to identify the unique requirements within the generalized healthcare domain to support the ability for networked entities to access and otherwise leverage consumer-centric data.

EULA & ToS Task Force : [Chair: Steve Greenberg]

The goal of the EULA & ToS Task Force is to identify and name key concepts that help users and service providers understand what each other expects. The output will be a set of documents that can be referenced or included in EULA and TOS agreements.

DataPortability Legal Entity Task Force: [Chair: Steve Repetti]

The Charter of the DataPortability Legal Entity Task Force is to research and recommend options for the legal formation of a DataPortability entity. On July 28th, the Steering committee made official the statement that "It is the intent of the Steering Group to operate the DataPortability Project as a non-profit entity."

Service Provider Grid Task force [Chair: Daniela Barbosa/ J Trent Adams]

The Goal of the Service Provider Grid is to provide a place that illustrates the state of what features are available and if providers are using open standards to implement them.

Task Force to Recruit for a Volunteer Positions [Chair: Daniela Barbosa]

Recruiting Task Force to recruit for a volunteers for strategic positions within the DataPortability Group.

Global Events

Blogtalkradio Live from Web2.0 NYC

Daniela Barbosa , Chris Saad and blogtalkradio host John Havens talk about DataPortability Project at Web2.0 NYC Expo . Photo by John Federico.

Check Upcoming.com if you are interested in attending a local DataPortability Meetup.

Want a chance to include your own Meetup photo in the monthly report? Tag it on Flickr 'DataPortability'

Speaking Events

The following events had representatives of the DataPortability Project present**:

- Sept 18th 2008: Web 2.0 Expo NYC. Daniela Barbosa & Chris Saad. Understanding the Basics of Personal Data: Vendors, Users, and You. View Slide Deck.

- Sept 22nd. ReadWriteTalk Podcatse. RWW Live Data Portability. Chris Saad, Daniela Barbosa, Eran Hammer-Lahav, Angus Logan, Chris Messina

- Oct 17th 2008. Web 3.0 Conference and Expo. Daniela Barbosa. Business Risks of Web 3.0. What Risks?. View Slide Deck

** All DataPortability Project members are encouraged to participate in spreading the DataPortability message at local conferences and events. For formal representation of the DataPortability project issues, please contact Daniela Barbosa. Please see the Press Room for additional contact information and official press inquiries

**DataPortability Project members- Want to add your speaking event to the monthly report? Please Add it to the Speakers Bureau!

Relevant Links

- DataPortability Wiki

- DataPortability Discussion Lists

- Monthly Process Reports

- Press Room

DataPortability in Motion Podcast

The DataPortability in Motion Podcast with hosts J. Trent Adams and Steve Greenberg and with more than 1,000 downloads and subscriptions: {new episodes coming soon!]

6/13/2008: Guest: Bob Ngu, Founder of Jiggyme.com

6/27/2008: Guest: Drummond Reed (a.k.a. =Drummond), Co-Chair of the OASIS XDI and XRI Technical Committees.

7/18/2008– Guest: Paul Madsen, member of the Liberty Alliance Technology Expert Group

Have an idea for a Podcast guest? Please let us know!