

Standards- why you should get involved

Presented by Jo Cook, UK Gemini | IST36 | AGI | Astun Technology



Hi! I'm Jo *waves*

In my day job I'm the data discovery lead for [Astun Technology](#)

But I have a secret alter-ego as the standards liaison for
the [AGI](#)

I'm here to convince you of two things:

#1: You need standards

#2: Standards need you

Why you need standards



There's a (geospatial) standard to meet every need!

Data formats, Metadata, Coordinate Reference Systems, APIs, Addressing, Data Quality, ...

Speaker notes

There are at least 90 standards for geospatial. It's unlikely that your need won't be covered.

In the UK Geospatial world standards are driven by ISO
(via BSI) and OGC



Speaker notes

Edd's talk went through the recommendations as to which ones should be used in UK

Using standards brings benefits

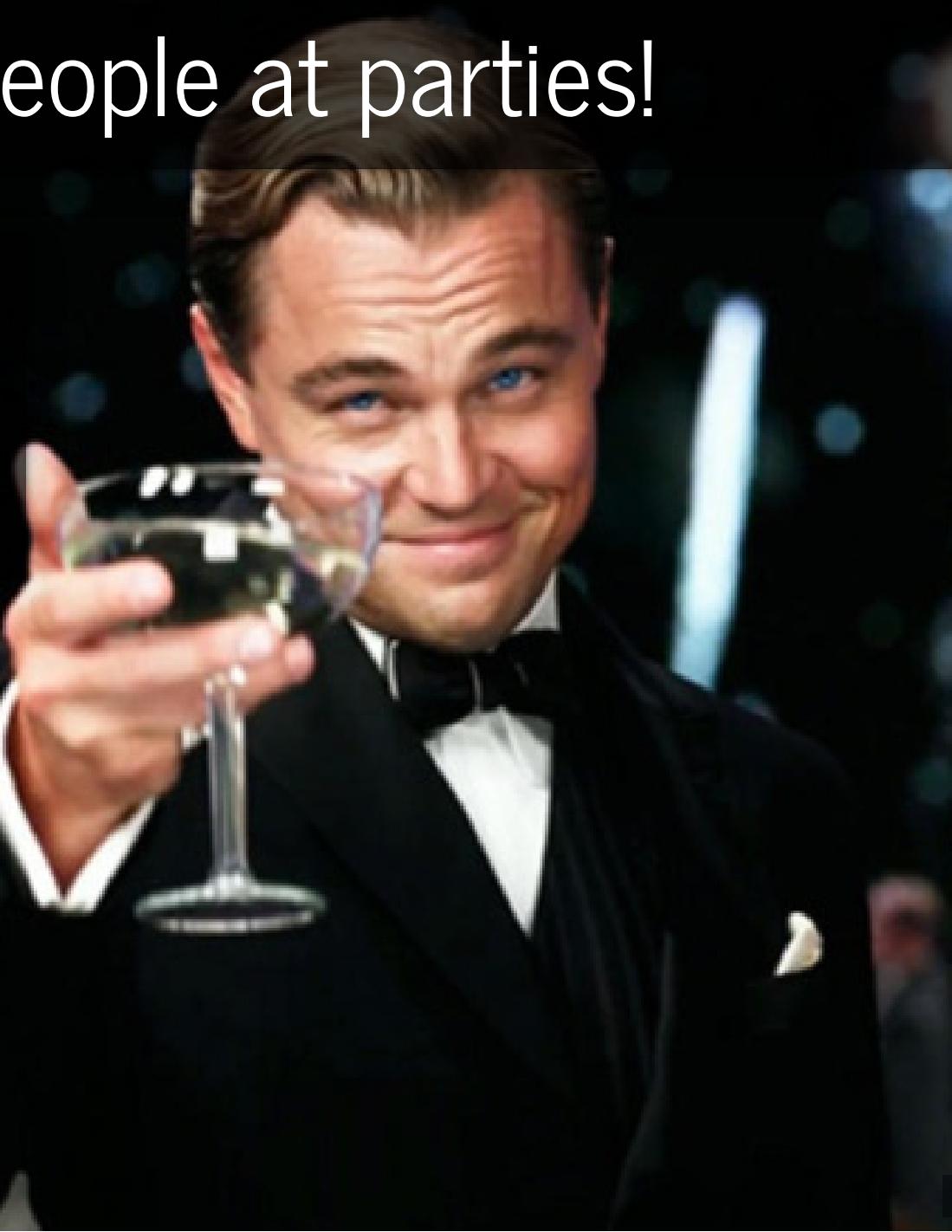
Breaking down siloes, increasing efficiencies driving innovation, facilitating FAIR principles, avoiding lock-in...

Speaker notes

Standards make data creation easier, and enable flexibility- so it can be used in future, unforeseen ways. Research into local government data sharing during covid highlighted need for standards and avoiding siloes. Don't reinvent the wheel!

Impress people at parties!

Getting involved with standards is a really good way to get an in depth knowledge of your subject



Why standards need you



Standards should be demand-driven
rather than supply-driven, and built as a
consensus

Speaker notes

They are designed to meet a need, not to proscribe how things are done. If the need evolves, then so should the standard

Government involvement in standards is vital!



Ensure national priorities are addressed and that the public sector dimension is included

Speaker notes

Both using and developing standards. Standards can be a light-touch way of regulating rather than using legislation, plus it's a good way of engaging with the private sector to ensure everyone is singing from the same hymn sheet

The standards development process:

Proposal → Team → Draft → Comments →
Refinements → Approval → Publishing

Speaker notes

Proposal: Don't reinvent the wheel again! cf ISO Indoor Feature Model vs OGC Indoor Mapping.

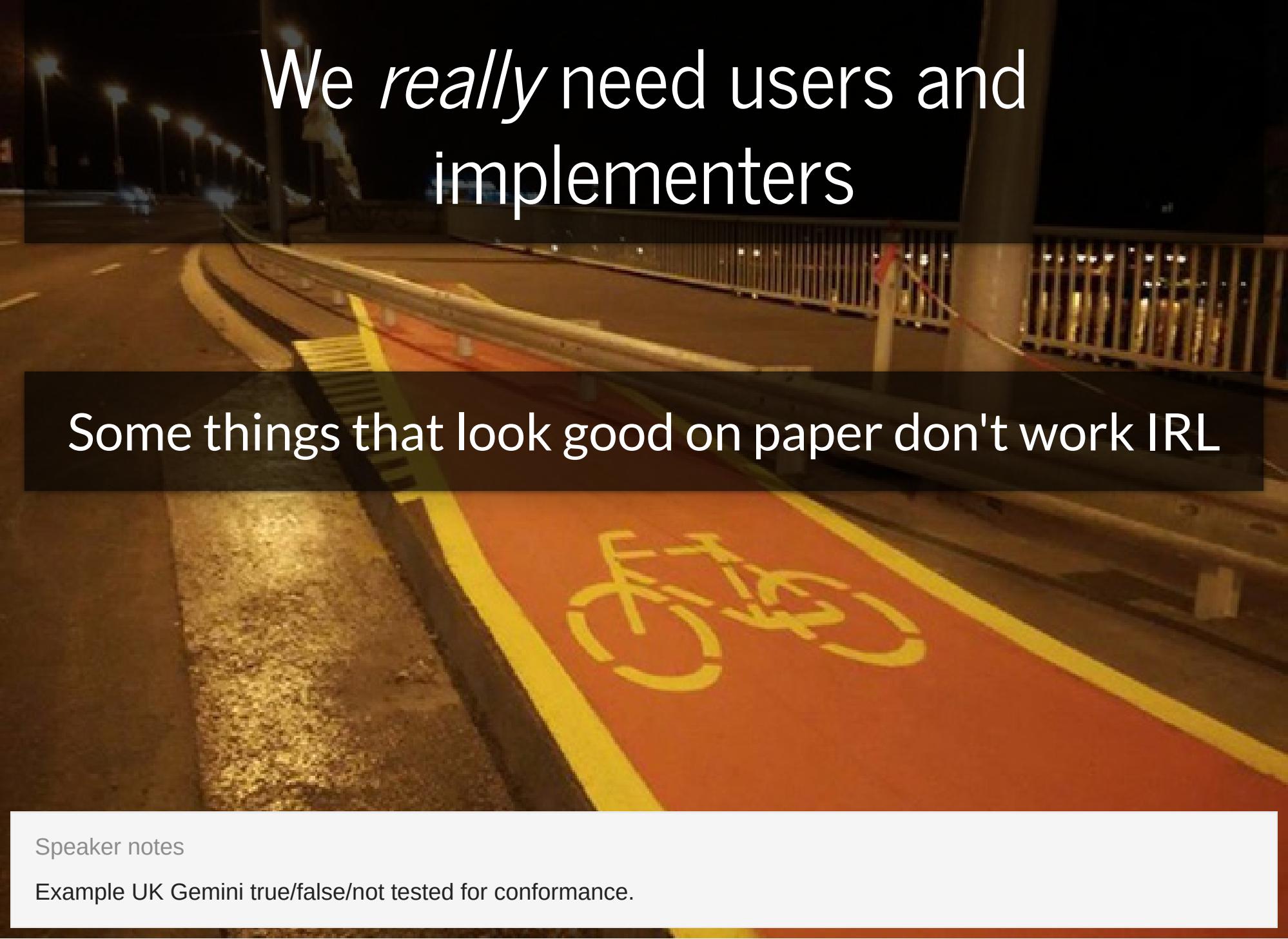
Team: Find some domain experts. Some standards are passed with no UK input because we don't have domain experts to comment for us.

Draft: indulge your inner pedant by commenting on the drafts- generally via a templated email or word document.

Refinements: There's generally a round of several iterations of commenting and refining.

Publishing- the process can take about 3 years from start to finish

We *really* need users and implementers



Some things that look good on paper don't work IRL

Speaker notes

Example UK Gemini true/false/not tested for conformance.

Thank You! For more information visit...

AGI Gemini Working Group

www.agi.org.uk/agi-uk-gemini

IST36

standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/committees/5000

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Speaker notes

Note that UK Gemini now does a lot of its work on GitHub to make it nice and clear, transparent and easy to get involved