

# State of the Unit Working Group



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The following is a brief summary of the Unit Working Group's past, current, and future goals and activities. For a more detailed view into the Unit Working Group's history, see the milestones document [1]. This page will be updated periodically by the Unit Working Group chairs.

### History

- 2005: Dictionary Process Working Group established to resolve differences in unit usage across the network
- 2005: First Unit Registry application co-developed, residing at LNO; demoed to IMC; code available via SVN at LNO
- 2007: Unit Task Force established to review individual units for inclusion in the Unit Registry
- 2007: Unit Best Practices document created
- 2008 IMC Meeting: Unit Registry re-scoped as a service; vetting proposed as a way to include all units in the Registry while indicating which have been reviewed; Unit Working Group established
- Spring-Summer 2009: Unit Registry design documents released, reviewed
- Summer 2009: Overhaul of Unit Best Practices; document split into guidelines and history/perspective document

- 2009 IMC Meeting: Unit Registry service developed, demoed to IMC; Best Practices for unit naming reviewed and accepted at IMC; Content and Development Crews established
- Winter 2009-2010: Content Crew reviews and corrects EML units
- Winter 2009-2010: Unit Registry Developer Guide released to Development Crew
- Spring 2010: Unit Registry interface developed, demoed to NISAC and IMC
- Spring 2010: Post-ASM proposal funded
- May 2010: Cross-site development meeting to integrate the Unit Registry in the KBS site data system
- June 2010: Multi-site visit at LNO to migrate Unit Registry code to LNO servers and discuss ongoing support
- August 2010: Cross-site development meeting to integrate the Unit Registry in the JRN site data system

### **Current Goals**

- Fall 2010 (ongoing): Content Crew to expand Unit Dictionary by entering custom units (along with corrected units where needed)
- Winter-Spring 2011: Establish guidelines for vetting units, including:
  - How-to for vetting naming/abbreviation consistency
  - Resources for vetting ‘scientific’ questions (i.e. content and usage)
  - Feedback on management interface development to support vetting process
- Spring 2011: Further cross-site design & development meetings, possibly with an emphasis on vetting and management

### **Future Plans**

- The Unit Working Group will arrange a training session on the usage of units from the Unit Dictionary, the usage of the Unit Registry interfaces, the vetting process, and the Best Practices
- Documentation will continue to be updated, including the Best Practices and the Unit Registry Developer Guide
- The Development Crew will continue to work with sites to integrate the Registry into site- and network-level applications. Proposed applications include:
  - EML Congruence Checker
  - Unit Conversion Tool
  - Metacat Attribute Search Tool
- Unit [2]

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**Links:**

[1] <http://intranet.ltnet.net.edu/im/files/im/unitMilestonesV2.doc>

[2] <http://im.ltnet.net.edu/taxonomy/term/49>