

# GPO's Federal Digital System

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# Challenges in the Digital Age

- Access to government published information is now widely expected to be electronic
- Digital information needs to be authentic and verified to be the correct version
- Digital information needs to be available for access almost immediately
- Information needs to be preserved, making it available for generations to come

# GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys)

- A customer-driven advanced digital information system.
- Automates the collection, management and dissemination of electronic information from all three branches of government.
- Information will be:
  - Submitted directly into FDsys
  - Permanently available in electronic format
  - Authenticated and versioned
  - Publicly accessible for searching and downloading
  - Available for conventional and on-demand printing

# What is FDsys?

- FDsys is a *Content Management System*
  - FDsys securely controls digital content throughout its lifecycle to ensure content integrity and authenticity
- FDsys is a *Preservation Repository*
  - FDsys follows archival system standards to ensure long-term preservation and access of digital content
- FDsys is an *Advanced Search Engine*
  - FDsys combines extensive metadata creation with modern search technology to ensure the highest quality search experience

# FDsys and Submission

FDsys content will come from three sources:

- Submitted directly into FDsys
- Harvested automatically from official Federal websites
- Converted from previously printed publications into digital files

# FDsys and Access

The FDsys search philosophy:

- Provide simple search with advanced results
- Provide advanced search features so users can efficiently retrieve specific documents
- Provide relevant results fast

# FDsys and Authentication

## Challenges

- How can an agency be assured that their content is not altered after it is submitted to GPO?
- How can a user be sure that accessed content is the correct version?
- How can a user be certain that the accessed content is unaltered?

# Authentication Tools and Processes

- Cryptographic hashing to detect unauthorized modification (SHA-256 algorithm)
- Digital signature tools for content originators
- Digital signatures for access copies of content, utilizing Adobe LiveCycle
- Metadata capturing content provenance information
  - PREMIS data dictionary



# FDsys and Preservation

Digital preservation processes will:

- Safeguard digital content and relevant metadata
- Assess the condition and needs of collections of digital information
- Meaningfully render content despite continually changing technology

# Program History

- Program started in 2004
- Released FDsys Requirement Document in May 2005
- A Program Management Office was created in October 2005
- System design and technology selection started in 2006
- GPO launched the first public release of FDsys in January 2009

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