

The Open Group Conference, Austin 2011

July 18-22

Day Two Highlights

OUR PLATINUM MEMBERS



OVERVIEW

The Open Group Conference, Austin 2011 continued on Tuesday, July 19 at the Four Season Hotel, Austin (Texas).

The Conference was organized to discuss themes along three primary tracks:

- World-Class Enterprise Architecture
- Security in 2011: Threats to Cybersecurity, Security Management Challenges, and Transformational Opportunities
- Business Impact of Cloud Computing

MORNING PLENARY SESSION

The theme for Day Two was *Security Management Challenges and Transformational Opportunities* and the plenary session presentations in the morning brought together dynamic speakers from both governmental and industry security. President and CEO of The Open Group, Allen Brown introduced the two plenary speakers: Dr. Peter Alterman of NSTIC; and Brandon Dunlap of Brightfly.

The Digital Identity Challenge - How the US National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace (NSTIC) Program Is Responding

Dr. Peter Alterman, Senior Advisor at National Program Office, National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace, NIST, and Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives at National Institute of Health (NIH)

Dr. Peter Alterman began by outlining the goal of the NSTIC: To build an identity management program by the year 2016 that is privacy-enhancing and voluntary; secure and resilient, interoperable; and cost-effective and easy to use that is focused at the non-government sector. The reason? Trusted identities provide a foundation for society: economic benefits (safe commerce); improved privacy; and enhanced security (against identity theft thus creating consumer confidence).

Don't worry about the government knowing too much about you, Dr. Alterman said; the private sector has much more information. Government has only standalone individual information silos, but business takes personal information, aggregates it and then sells it. The NSTIC wants to make sure that private industry begins to share fundamental principals that protect people, and that private industry leads the effort.

Important to the success of this effort will be innovation, he said. While smart credential-based cards will be part of the solution, they won't be the only thing; there will be no single solution to the identity problem, he said. It's also vitally important to protect privacy and, at the same time, civil liberties. In the end, Dr. Alterman said, we as users/consumers

Lessons From the Cloud: What I've Learned in 10 Years of Cloud Computing

Brandon Dunlap, Managing Director of Research, Brightfly

Brandon Dunlap began his keynote presentation by asking the security experts in the audience: Are we as security professionals blocking the adoption of a powerful technology — Cloud Computing — that is hugely beneficial to business growth? Quite often, he said, security acts as the obstacle to business enablement; but security's role should actually be to enable the business even if it sometimes takes an imperfect path.

The Cloud is a risky proposition to many security professionals, Mr. Dunlap said, and many take the stance that the risk of Cloud outweighs the benefits because of the lack of control. This is not unfounded, he said; in fact, employees with a credit card procuring low-cost services as a workaround to the IT department are the weakest link in Cloud security. "Rogue IT" such as this can cause organizations to run into problems because there's no telling what the providers' security controls are. Often, these providers have the attitude that "If security in our service is a big deal to you, then don't use our service," Mr. Dunlap said. But more and more, we as security professionals have choices in providers and should use their feet to do the walking. Providers must become much more transparent regarding their security controls as a result. And usually it's not that there's an issue with the technology; it's how we as security professionals manage Cloud.

Finally, security professionals must understand the business that their organizations are in so that they can protect it, Mr. Dunlap said. He finished by giving tips on how to get in front of Cloud security and operational risks; and advised that those in security should find out what their executives' issues are instead of sitting passively in their cubes; to focus on their business enablement.

PARALLEL TRACKS

Following the plenary sessions, attendees had the opportunity to attend track sessions. Tracks focused on:

- Architectural View of Security for the Cloud
- Business Architecture
- Security Architecture
- Data Quality & Semantic Interoperability
- TOGAF®/SOA
- Digital Identity
- SOA

HIGHLIGHTED TRACKS

Business Architecture Building Blocks

*Kevin Daley, Chief Architect, Business Architecture - Industry Asset Solutions
Global Innovation and Technology Group, IBM*

The Business Forum has wanted to create conformance requirements, said Kevin Daley, but first, it was realized that everyone had a different definition on what business architecture actually *is*. He shared current contextual positioning from the Business Forum and invited those in the audience to review, validate, and extend the Business Forum's point of view.

Case Study: the University of Texas Federated Identity Management System

Paul Caskey, Chief Technology Officer, University of Texas System Administration's Office of System-Wide Information Services

The University of Texas System is using federated identity management to ease user access, improve security, and foster collaboration across the state of Texas. The university system's Identity Management Initiative was begun when it received an NSF Extending the Reach Grant, leading the UT system to begin pilot operations with low-risk apps.

From there, explained Paul Caskey, an entire system of federated identity management was adopted with high success in enabling individuals to use one set of credentials to securely access multiple information resources.

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Coming together with fellow members of The Open Group not only provides opportunities to exchange information but also to have a voice in shaping the future of IT.

- Download our [conference bundle](#) available in our online bookstore, and keep an eye out next week for the link to our Conference Proceedings, which will include speaker presentations and more.
- The program for Monday-Wednesday's Conference schedule is [available online](#), and [on the mobile site](#).

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