



Australian Government

Department of Finance and Deregulation



Government and Industry Principles of Engagement on ICT

Foreword

The “Review of the Australian Government’s Use of Information and Communications Technology” by Sir Peter Gershon, recommended the development of client and supplier codes of conduct to help improve the operation of the Government ICT marketplace.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation, in consultation with agencies, the Australian Information Industry Association and the Australian Industry Group, identified five key areas to improve standards and achieve success:

- Accessibility
- Governance
- Problem Resolution
- Collaboration
- Application

The Government and Industry Principles of Engagement on ICT (the Principles) outline the expected standards and behaviours for all members of the Australian Government’s value chain including Government agencies/bodies and suppliers.

The Principles encourage participants to work together on portfolio, program and project activities to achieve better outcomes for all parties.

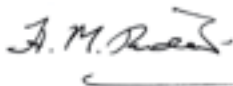
We are pleased to commend these Principles to you.



The Hon Lindsay Tanner MP
Minister for Finance and Deregulation



Mr Ian Birks
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Information Industry Association



Mrs Heather Ridout
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Industry Group



Government and Industry Principles of Engagement on ICT

Government and Industry will achieve success through:

Accessibility

- enabling equitable participation by all small, medium and large enterprises
- ensuring that information requests are fair and assessed in good time
- recognising that the cost of engagement should be proportional to the value of the activity

Collaboration

- building and maintaining an effective, cooperative relationship
- facilitating the sharing of knowledge and transfer of skills
- encouraging staff to acquire and maintain professional standards, individual competencies and marketplace understanding
- assigning ICT activities to individuals who have the necessary authority, capability and availability

Governance

- demonstrating leadership that is outcome oriented
- ensuring activities are aligned to whole-of-government priorities, strategies and approaches
- managing activities with a high degree of professionalism, integrity, probity and fairness
- identifying, analysing, managing and mitigating risks to achieve best outcomes



Problem Resolution

- resolving issues through timely, effective and equitable mechanisms and processes

Application

- leading activities towards stated outcomes
- developing an agreed understanding of ICT goals, responsibilities, and timeframes in line with best practice, value for money, and whole-of-life costs
- creating an environment that fosters innovation, builds capability for Government and provides opportunities for Industry
- abiding by relevant confidentiality, probity and security requirements, in particular those that relate to information or services provided by either party





The Principles in Practice

The Principles are consistent with Australian Government legislation and policies (including the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines, and the Australian Government Procurement Statement). The Principles are not intended to have legal effect, but are designed to provide a guide for agencies and suppliers.

Adoption of the Principles is designed to strengthen the relationship between agencies and suppliers. The Principles encourage parties to work together to achieve better outcomes and foster behavioural change.

By applying the Principles, parties should have clear expectations of the required standards and behaviours when working together. While adoption of the Principles is encouraged, the Principles are not a precondition for suppliers seeking Australian Government business.

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