

## ICA INFORMATION

**An International Journal on Information Technology in Government**

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### ICA General Issue

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## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the latest edition of ICA Information, the Journal of the ICA Council. The past year, apart from an extremely successful conference in Salzburg last September, has been marked by the adoption of an updated Strategic Plan for the period 2005 – 2100. This ensures that ICA remains focussed and ready to fulfil its mission as an effective international forum for the support of senior management in the formulation of policies for IT and as an instrument for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of government administration.

The General Issue, containing articles of wider interest to those concerned with the use of IT in Government has been a regular feature of ICA publications since 1970. Each year the ICA Conference selects a current or emerging theme on which to base its deliberations. The General Issue provides member countries and guests with an opportunity to present views and activities in a wider context.

This year we have no less than three articles that offer an approach to e-government cross-organisational strategies. They will be of great interest to members facing similar issues.

First, I am once again grateful to our colleagues in New Zealand, They have provided an insightful article which outlines the governance models New Zealand Public Service agencies have adopted to manage ‘transformational’ cross-agency e-government initiatives. Second, following its earlier work on Enterprise Architecture Denmark is now developing, and shares with us, what it calls its ‘OIO’ E-government Architecture; a cross-organizational enterprise architecture focusing on the public sector administration, service, procurement and other public sector activities. Third, we have a short article on how Transformational Government can work. This also directs the reader to further information on this ever more important issue. I am grateful to the UK e-Government Unit for their permission to reprint their article.

Australia have set up a Working Group to provide advice to government on the operation of automated systems in administrative decision making. This is a major undertaking, and through a statement to ICA, Australia provides access to a report on best practice principles and seeks input from other governments on the training of users of automated systems. Links are provided to the Working Group, its report, and to officers to contact.

A number of references have been made at recent conferences to the ‘FirstGov’ web site frequently referred to as “The U.S. Government’s Official Web Portal.” Here we learn about the history and problems facing the most comprehensive site in and about the U.S. government.

Once again, ICA is providing it’s General Issue in both web format and as a number of downloads in ‘PDF’ format providing a facility for the download of any particular article in hard-copy format to the desk. Please let me know how useful you find this arrangement. Ideas and innovations on improving the service to members are particularly welcome at any time. <mailto:ica@globalnet.co.uk>.

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Editor