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**Management Matters** is a monthly publication covering the Distributed Management Task Force and its member organizations.

## FEATURES

### Message from the Chairman: Entering the Cloud

By: *Mike Baskey*, Chairman of the Board

On April 27, 2009, DMTF announced the formation of the [Open Cloud Standards Incubator](#), which will focus on management of private and hybrid clouds. This is a significant development for DMTF. First, this is the first time DMTF has invoked the Standards Incubation process, providing another means of encouraging vendor collaboration in a more public and open way. This news also marks the entry of DMTF into an exciting new arena that is relevant to both our members and the wide set of customers DMTF collectively serves.

Cloud computing is a popular topic in the industry, one that holds great interest and opportunity for DMTF members. This is demonstrated by the tremendous participation of industry leaders in the recent announcement. DMTF's entry into this space was highly anticipated, and has attracted new members, in

### Upcoming Events

September 14 – 17, 2009  
[Storage Developer Conference](#)  
Santa Clara, California

November 16 – 19, 2009  
[2009 Management Developer Conference](#)  
Santa Clara, California

### Sponsored Events

June 14 – 19, 2009  
[USENIX Annual Technical Conference \(USENIX '09\)](#)  
San Diego, California

Watch this space for [other DMTF events](#)

particular [Red Hat](#) and [Savvis](#) and [SunGard Availability Services LP](#), to join DMTF in order to participate in the Open Cloud Standards Incubator. Please join me in welcoming these three companies to DMTF.

DMTF's Open Cloud Standards Incubator intends to establish the relevance of virtualization technology for enabling private cloud infrastructures in an evolutionary way. Along with the consumption of those virtualization technologies by leading cloud providers, DMTF will further establish the relevance of its technologies for managing IT complexity and relating the IT infrastructure to the new application and service paradigms being developed and deployed by DMTF customers.

DMTF will explore numerous areas of interest within the cloud space. We will also work with our alliance partners, and other standards organizations to further delve into the cloud industry. Security is one area of focus where both virtualization and hybrid clouds will drive new use cases that are needed to federate areas such as identities and ensure trust boundaries are defined for multi-tenant usage in the server, on the network and on storage devices. Service level agreements that span organizations with metrics rolled up from the various domains is another area where the work in DMTF can be combined with related work in other areas to address customers' needs.

It has been an exciting first half of 2009. We are excited about the recent activities within DMTF and are excited for what is still to come.

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## Welcome New Members

[SunGard Availability Services LP](#)



# The DMTF Standards Incubation Process: Promoting Open Collaboration throughout the Standard Lifecycle

By: *By Josh Cohen*, Vice Chairman of the Board and Process Committee Chair

With the launch of the [Open Cloud Standards Incubator](#) in late April, DMTF initiated its first effort using the standards incubation process. DMTF incubators are designed to enable members to work together to produce informational specifications that can later be submitted for further standards development.

## Why was the Incubator Created?

In the past, the development cycle for a future standard often began with a group of vendors working privately to create a specification. Once finished, this specification would be submitted to a standards body, such as the DMTF, for ratification as a standard. While these private efforts were very successful in certain situations, they also had various drawbacks. Even when operated fairly, they were still governed by agreement of the vendors involved rather than an open standards body with a well-defined process. The incubator process allows vendors to form a group within DMTF to develop such a specification. The DMTF process ensures oversight by a standards body rather than private vendor agreements. The DMTF processes themselves are defined, in a democratic process, by the members of the organization. In cases where there is a disagreement, members can use a well-defined escalation process which may proceed up to the DMTF Board of Directors for resolution. This provides a mechanism to enable transparency and resolve issues fairly and by consensus of the organization.

## How is an Incubator created?

New incubators can be proposed by any two Board or Leadership member companies within DMTF. Incubator proposals are submitted to the DMTF Process Committee Chair, who notifies the general DMTF membership of the intent to form the incubator. Interested members then work to develop a charter, which must be approved by the Board of Directors before the incubator can begin working on its stated deliverables.

Once an incubator is approved, any DMTF member can participate to provide input. The Incubator may define additional requirements for members who wish to participate at a leadership level. They also define their voting rules and processes, where they do not conflict with overall DMTF processes, to allow increased flexibility. This flexibility provides vendors an alternative to private collaboration.

## What is the output of an Incubator?

An Incubator will produce deliverables, such as specifications or other materials, that are considered informational specifications. Informational specifications produced by DMTF incubators are reviewed by the Board, which determines the next step for the work. Specifications developed through the incubator process are expected to evolve into permanent DMTF standards; however, there is no guarantee that DMTF will accept the specifications. More information on the incubator process is available [here](#).

If informational specifications are deemed appropriate for evolution into standards, they may be transferred, by the Board, to an existing or new working group. That working group will apply DMTF's standards development process to take, as input, the Informational Specifications developed by the Incubator and produce consensus-based DMTF standards.

## What's next?

In the case of the Open Cloud Standards Incubator, the incubation process allows DMTF members to begin building alignment around an approach for addressing the emerging cloud ecosystem early in the technology's life cycle. This alignment, flexibility, transparency, and governance by the DMTF allows for a streamlined path to produce standards in a timely manner.

DMTF is very pleased to be using the incubation process to explore the possibilities for cloud standards. We look forward to the group's continued work in this exciting space.

## Upgraded Web Tools Coming Soon; Training Webinar Scheduled for June 17

In early July, DMTF will migrate to an updated version of the Kavi platform. The upgrade features several changes and improvements to the existing DMTF Web tools that will help members collaborate more efficiently.

To ease this transition, DMTF is offering a training webinar for members on June 17 at 8:00 a.m. PDT. The training will be accessible at <http://dmtf.webex.com>. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the capabilities of the new platform. More information on the migration will be available in the coming weeks.

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## CDM Showcase 2009

The Common Diagnostic Model (CDM) Forum is hosting its 2009 MDC Showcase at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara, Calif. on Nov. 16 – 19, 2009. The showcase will allow companies to work with key original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and third party application vendors to integrate modules into their CDM based solutions. Companies will be recognized by the industry for CDM progress and support of CDM adoption. Companies that are already among the leaders of CDM will have an opportunity to help pave the way for broad industry adoption. The increasing interest for uniting the computer industry on a single interoperable interface to all system diagnostics makes this a perfect opportunity to learn more about CDM and be a part of future development and implementations. Sign up now and show that your company is an industry leader of CDM adoption. The showcase registration is now open for companies. Contact [cdm-forum-chair@dmtof.org](mailto:cdm-forum-chair@dmtof.org) now to be a part of this industry event.

## New DMTF Documents Available to Members

Standards:

- [IPMI PET to Platform Message Registry Mapping](#) (DSP0244) – The IPMI PET to Platform Message Registry Mapping defines the mapping from IPMI PET to Platform Message Registry. The target audience for this specification is implementers who are writing CIM-based providers or consumers of management interfaces that represent the components described in this document.

## Recapping 2009 MMS and 2009 Citrix Synergy

### Microsoft Management Summit 2009: Physical – Virtual – Powerful

In its twelfth-anniversary year, MMS 2009 offered more knowledge and information than ever. In addition to executive keynotes, Microsoft experts and industry leaders presented more than 140 technical sessions, all packed with important updates and demos. MMS 2009 featured more than 9,000 Hands-on Lab sessions during the week, most led by experts providing a guided tour of the latest management technologies.

MMS 2009 offered face-to-face access to Microsoft and industry IT management experts through a variety of networking opportunities. In the MMS 2009 Expo more than 55 sponsors and exhibitors showcased their latest management products, services and solutions. The DMTF booth highlighted the latest updates on activities within DMTF, including the announcement of the new Open Cloud Standards Incubator that was released on April 27. Many MMS attendees were excited about this new effort, which was also mentioned in the show's opening keynote.

DMTF's booth also featured a demonstration from Realtek, which also received a lot of positive attention.

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## Call for Contributors

DMTF invites you to contribute to *Management Matters*. DMTF welcomes letters to the editor, topic suggestions and other contributions. If you would like to participate, email us at [press@dmtof.org](mailto:press@dmtof.org).

## Member Feedback Welcomed

We are continually improving our newsletter and welcome your input. Please send any comments or suggestions to [press@dmtof.org](mailto:press@dmtof.org).

## Recapping 2009 MMS and 2009 Citrix Synergy – cont'd

### Citrix Synergy 2009 – where virtualization, networking and application delivery meet

Citrix Synergy 2009 took place in Las Vegas, Nev. from May 4–7, 2009. This conference was a four–event conference that brought together the leading experts in virtualization, cloud computing, application delivery and networking to show you how to break from the costs and complexities of the distributed computing status quo.

DMTF's president, Winston Bumpus, took part in the conference by presenting on "Simplifying Virtualization Management using Industry Standards" at the Virtualization Congress. Winston also partnered with Board Member Abolfazl Sirjani on a session entitled "My Cloud or Yours? The Importance of Standards–Based Virtual Infrastructure Management," which highlighted various implementations of OVF.

If you missed this event, take a look at the [video recaps](#), interviews and keynotes available on the show's Web site.

### Alliance Partner Feature: The Open Grid Forum (OGF)

This month we spotlight DMTF Alliance Partner the [Open Grid Forum](#) (OGF), a community of thousands of users, developers and vendors representing more than 400 organizations. The group leads the global standardization effort for grid computing and works with its partners to accelerate the adoption of grid computing. OGF believes grids will lead to new discoveries, new opportunities and better business practices.

The Open Grid Forum was created from the merger of Enterprise Grid Alliance (EGA) and Global Grid Forum (GGF), both of which were previous alliance partners of DMTF. EGA was a consortium focused on developing and promoting enterprise grid solutions. GGF had a rich history and established international presence within the academic and research communities, along with a growing participation from the industry. Now as OGF, the organization has the opportunity to deliver faster results, communicate more clearly and collaborate more effectively with other grid organizations and standards bodies.

The [OGF/DMTF](#) alliance provides a formal channel for both organizations to collaborate, communicate and coordinate management modeling and services in support of grid technologies. This relationship allows each organization to utilize their strengths: DMTF is responsible for distributed management infrastructure and information and data modeling of resources, and OGF is the peer organization responsible for grid standards.

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**REGULARS**

## 2009 Survey Results: What DMTF standard is your company currently developing an implementation of (including extensions)?

In this series, DMTF continues to report findings from its annual member survey conducted in January 2009. One hundred twenty-five members responded at length to our survey.

We asked members what DMTF standards their companies currently are developing an implementation of (including extensions).

Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Alert Standard Format (ASF)	10.4%	13
Common Diagnostic Model (CDM)	17.6%	22
Common Information Model (CIM)	44.8%	56
CMDB Federation	11.2%	14
Desktop Management Interface (DMI)	5.6%	7
Desktop and Mobile Architecture for System Hardware (DASH)	26.4%	33
OVF	12.8%	16
Platform Management Components Intercommunications (PMCI)	10.4%	13
Systems Management Architecture for Server Hardware (SMASH)	32.0%	40
Systems Management BIOS (SMBIOS)	20.0%	25
Web Based Enterprise Management (WBEM)	36.8%	46
CIM-XML	27.2%	34
WS-Management	41.6%	52
Storage Networking Industry Association	19.4%	25
Virtualization Profiles	24.0%	30
I Don't know	17.6%	22
Other (please specify)	6.4%	8

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