Ontology Summit 2011

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NITRD ...

- the interagency program to coordinate federal and federally supported IT research and development
  (see: http://nitrd.gov)

- Represents almost $5B of annual investments by 16 agencies

The Needs ...

- The Administration is interested in open government, transparency and data-based policy formation (eg, dashboards that can summarize investments and drill down to the project level)

- Science recognizes the increasing importance of "big data" (aka the fourth paradigm of science, which applies to scientific literature as well as sensor inputs and computer outputs)

- How to turn the data deluge into a data cornucopia?!

The Possibilities ...

- It appears that ontology and semantic technologies may be a key

- The Federal government is usually a late adopter of new technologies: can we help change that in this case?

So ...

- What should the government be doing at this time?

  - Increasing research support for ontology research?

  - Adopting ontology technologies for it's operational work?

  - How do we decide between the two for given problems and projects?

- These summits can, we hope, help us sort out questions like this as IT in all it's dimensions continues its race to the future