

On October 8, 2018, ARMA International and the Information Governance Coalition publicly announced a merger. Below are answers to questions that members of either organization may have.

How did the merger come about?

In the spring, ARMA CEO Jocelyn Gunter and Information Coalition President Nick Inglis began discussing opportunities for collaboration, and it soon became clear that the organizations were more aligned than was previously thought. With input from the ARMA Board of Directors, the organizations agreed to pursue the merger.

Why did the merger come about?

The leadership from both organizations recognized the synergies and agreed that the information community would be best served in these challenging times by one association that provides a consistent, unified, authoritative message.

Will ARMA's name be changed as a result of the merger?

No. The association will continue to be called ARMA International.

How does the merger affect ARMA's goals, mission, and vision?

There will be no change to the organization's goals, mission, or vision.

Will the merger impact the membership fees?

There will be no change to the membership fees.

Will ARMA continue to be a not-for-profit organization?

Yes. ARMA remains a 501c6 non-for-profit organization.

Will ARMA chapters be affected by the merger?

No. The chapters & regions structure will not be affected.

Will the merger affect ARMA's existing partnerships and sponsorships?

No. Our current strategic and business partnerships will not be affected.

What happens to the members of the Information Coalition?

Coalition members who are not yet members of ARMA will be offered free or pro-rated membership. More details will be shared with those members directly.

What happens to the Information Governance Conference (InfoGovCon)?

The Information Governance Conference has been a unique experience with its own brand of programming styles and its own special community. Much of what has made the event so successful will work its way into the annual ARMA conference over time. The event itself will likely return in a new form as a part of ARMA International, and we are formulating plans.

What happens to the InfoBOK?

The *Information Body of Knowledge* (InfoBOK) will be included among ARMA's resources. Because it has a broad focus on the information-related professions, the *InfoBOK* is an ideal complement to the ARMA-developed *Information Governance Body of Knowledge* (IGBOK), which is more of a deep-dive into information governance.

What happens to the INFO designation?

ARMA recognizes the amount of hard work the INFO designees have completed to attain the credential, which itself was the result of much thinking, planning, and collaborating. More information on its status will be determined.

The Information Specialist exam will become a part of ARMA, and its future branding and integration will be determined.

What happens to the Information Coalition team?

Nick Inglis has joined ARMA and reports to CEO Jocelyn Gunter as the executive director of content & programming. In this role, he will lead all education, content, and certification initiatives. Jim Merrifield, an ARMA member for nearly 15 years, has become a special advisor to the organization and will continue to drive and support ARMA's mission. Rich Mesquita is returning to other business endeavors.

What happens to Information Coalition website?

The Information Coalition will remain in place through the end of the year as offerings and resources are integrated. Then, as a part of ARMA International, it will likely live on in a different role for the combined organization.