COBie Task Group

Who we are:

- Construction to Operations Building Information Exchange (COBie) Task Group.
- A task group of the buildingSMART alliance Information Standards Subcommittee.
COBie Task Group

What we do:

- Ongoing technical development of the COBie data schema.
- Support incorporation of successive versions of COBie into the National BIM Standard – United States®
- Promote the adoption and implementation of COBie by the building industry.
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What is a data schema?
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- A definition of the scope of a dataset.
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- A blueprint for how a database is organized into data tables.
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- A definition of the scope of a dataset.
- A blueprint for how a database is organized into data tables.
- The logical view that defines how data is organized into tables and the relationships among them, including constraints.
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Example:
What is the name of the data schema for the following five data fields?

- Street
- Street2
- City
- State
- Zip Code
Example:

What is the name of the data schema for the following five data fields? *Address.*

- Street
- Street2
- City
- State
- Zip Code
Example:
What happens when two applications use different data field names for the same data?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Street2</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address1</td>
<td>Address2</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Postal Code</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example:

What happens when two applications use different data field names for the same data?

- You need a mapping utility to exchange the data correctly.
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Example:

But what happens when two applications define the content of data fields differently?
Example:

But what happens when two applications define the content of data fields differently?

- Now you need an algorithm to parse the data found in one data field into five.
The algorithm quickly becomes complex...

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• The algorithm must be designed to search for delimiters such as spaces, commas and line breaks, which don’t occur consistently in all addresses.

• As a result, even the best algorithm cannot consistently parse all addresses correctly.
Solution?

When applications share (or can map to) a common, industry-standard data schema:

- Reliable, automated information exchange is supported and simplified.
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Why do we need COBie?

• Building information is far more complex in its scope and structure than a simple address...
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What is COBie?

- A data schema for the publication and exchange of alphanumeric building information (not building information models).
- An information exchange specification for the life-cycle capture and delivery of information needed by facility managers.
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Why is COBie important?

Most of the electronic building information delivered to owners in model form is never used.
Why is COBie important?

- An industry-wide data schema promotes the efficient, reliable exchange of the building information created during design and construction that is needed for building operations throughout its useful life.
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What did we do last year?

- Transitioned from CAFM/CMMS Topical Committee (CCTC) to COBie Task Group.
- Transitioned from FMOC oversight to bSa Information Standards Subcommittee oversight.
- Began work on COBie 3.0.
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What is the task group doing now?

- Reviewing COBie v2.4 in light of actual practice and use, proposing revisions for COBie 3.0.
- Developing COBie education and outreach programs.
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How are we doing it?

- Internal Task Group consensus discussion and balloting process for proposed changes.
- 60-90 day public comment period.
- Review, evaluation of public comments.
- Final proposed COBie 3.0 prepared for NBIMS-US v4 ballot.
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2016 Leadership:

- Michael Tardif, chair
  michael@buildinginformatics.com

- Brian Haines, vice chair
  bhaines@fmsystems.com

- T. J. Meehan, secretary
  tj.Meehan@caddmicrosystems.com
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How can join the Task Group?

- Anyone with an interest in the subject matter.
- You!

Contact:

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or any member of the COBie Leadership Team.