Dr. Macedonio Alanis  
e-government: same technology, different rules, higher stakes”  
MISRC, March 2010

IT in government

- G2B
- G2G
- G2E
- G2C

Suppliers → Government → General Public

It is not just the technology

- Hardware, alone, can not solve the problem
- It is not just the government’s problem
- It can have a profound influence on other areas
The importance of e-government

President Obama’s vision

“Let us be the generation that reshapes our economy to compete in the digital age. Let’s set high standards for our schools and give them the resources they need to succeed. Let’s recruit a new army of teachers, and give them better pay and more support in exchange for more accountability. Let’s make college more affordable, and let’s invest in scientific research, and let’s lay down broadband lines through the heart of inner cities and rural towns all across America.”

[Presidential Announcement Speech in Springfield, IL 02/10/07]
E-government in Minnesota

- “One of our greatest opportunities for success lies in the alignment of the state’s technology strategies with the Administration’s business objectives. Aggressive use of information technology will help allow us to achieve our business objectives and offer better services for Minnesota citizens.”
  
  The Pawlenty-Molnau Plan: Minnesota’s Drive to Excellence, April 19, 2004

- “Citizens demand and deserve more and better service from their government”
  
  Governor Tim Pawlenty, July 2005

- “The vision Governor Pawlenty has set before me is to improve government service through cost effective use of technology”
  
  Gopal Khanna, CIO State of Minnesota, July 2005

---

I’ve always believed in the power of technology...

- “I’ve always believed in the power of technology to make government more open and accessible to the people it is supposed to serve”
  
  Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Aug 4 2008

- “I’ve always believed in the power of technology to make government work better”
  
  Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Oct 19 2006

- “I’ve always believed in the power of technology to deliver essential information that you need when you need it”
  
  Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Feb 17 2008

Tecnológico de Monterrey
E-government in the news… (last week)

Sacramento City Council Receives Agendas on Kindles and Netbooks
*Mar 23, 2010* - Sacramento, Calif., City Council switches from paper agendas to digital versions on Kindles and netbooks.

Utah Scheduling Appointments Online for Drivers’ Licenses
*Mar 22, 2010* - Online scheduler was built to decrease wait times in Utah motor vehicle offices.

Electronic Files Could Save Paper, Thousands of Dollars in Fayette County, Ky.
*Mar 22, 2010* - As the Fayette County attorney’s office goes paperless, computer network gives lawyers instant access to specific files.

Web Chat Helps Virginia Reduce Phone Calls About Tax Questions
*Mar 18, 2010* - Virginia deploys a Web chat device for $1,000 that quadruples the number of customers that service representatives can handle simultaneously.

Chicago Streamlines Online Services with $1.8 Million Web Site Makeover
*Mar 17, 2010* - Chicago’s first Web site overhaul in nine years improves transparency, provides access to social media tools and runs on an open source operating system.

Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch Discusses Records Management, E-Voting
*Mar 16, 2010* - McCulloch aims to increase voter participation and growing Montana businesses.
Importance of the Government sector

- Government is the single most important client in the market
- Government projects are very visible
- Government projects have a profound effect on society
- Government cycles do not necessarily follow economic cycles, which is useful in difficult economic times

What are the rules?
Why is it difficult to deal with the government?

- Government structures are different from those in the private sector.
- Continuous change in top management.
- Purchasing mechanisms are ruled by strict laws.
- There are different levels of government, with different needs and different time frames.
- Important purchases done by public bidding and assigned to the lowest bidder.
- If laws are not followed to the letter, people involved could end up in jail.

The government purchasing process

- Direct purchases
  - Small amounts
  - National security
  - Time pressure
  - When it is too expensive to use other methods.

- RFP 3 or more suppliers
  - Small to medium size projects.

- Public bidding process
  - By invitation.
  - Public bidding open to national companies.
  - Public bidding open to international companies.
How does the Government buy large projects?

Steps in the public bidding process

1. RFP
2. Q&A session
3. Opening of technical proposals
4. Technical decision and economic proposals.
5. Final decision

Steps prior to the RFP

1. Definition of needs
2. Conceptual design
3. Budget request
4. Budget approval
5. Preparation of RFP

RFP
1. Q&A session
2. Opening of technical proposals
3. Technical decision and economic proposals.
4. Final decision
Steps after the public bidding process

- Definition of needs
  - Conceptual design
  - Budget request
  - Budget approval
  - Preparation of RFP
  - RFP
  - Q&A session
  - Opening of technical proposals
  - Technical decision and economic proposals.
  - Final decision
- Contract
  - Project development
  - Possible derivative projects
  - Warranty and service
  - Follow-up projects

The Federal Acquisition Regulation

- Phases
  - need recognition and acquisition planning,
  - contract formation, and
  - contract administration
1.4 A vision for Government services

How far do we want to go?

G2B G2G G2E G2C
Suppliers Government General Public

Tecnológico de Monterrey
To provide services...

- Any time
- Any place
- Any way

Part 2
Perspectives
Lessons for government?

E-government is about society

- Cost savings are just one indicator
- Social value is important
- Alignment with operational and political objectives is important
- The impact on society is deeper than just providing better products
- E-government is G2C, but also G2B, G2G, G2E
**Level of maturity**

- **IT Maturity**
  - Initiation
  - Early growth
  - General penetration
  - Assurance

- **Time**

**Different curves for different technologies**

- **IT maturity**
  - Time
2.1 Lessons for IT companies

Projects change in cycles

Types of projects

Time

1st year
2nd year
3rd year
4th year
Importance of the Government sector

- Government is the single most important client in the market
- Government projects are very visible
- Government projects have a profound effect on society
- Government cycles do not necessarily follow economic cycles, which is useful in difficult economic times

2.1 Lessons for citizens
**Benchmarking government**

- Who competes with the Government?
  - It is my money
  - It is my time
  - It is my government

**Where are the opportunities?**

- Real benefits sit just outside the limits of what is possible today
- Is there anything that cannot be done, that, if it could be done, it would change everything?
Dr. Macedonio Alanis

e-government: same technology, different rules, higher stakes"

MISRC, March 2010

An important research area

- Same technology
- Different rules
- Higher stakes

Education:
- Ph.D. Business, University of Minnesota
- Sc.M. Computer Sciences, Brown University
- B.S. Computer Sciences, ITESM-University of Colorado

Education and research:
- Coordinates Graduate Management of Technology Programs at ITESM
- Teaches in Universities across Latin America
- First non-US professor elected to The Americas Chair of the Association for Information Systems

Government Experience:
- CIO of the State of Nuevo Leon, worked on the development of Mexico’s IT Policies

Industry Experience:
- Cemex-Neoris (management, growth and joint ventures for Neoris), IBM (solutions architect), K-Mart (Decision Support)

Tecnológico de Monterrey
“e-government: same technology, different rules, higher stakes”

Dr. Macedonio Alanis

© 2010, Macedonio Alanis

Minneapolis
Minnesota
March 2010