

SEMINAIRE

E+; 3=! C

SEMINAR

STATISTICAL COMMISSION AND
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPEDistr.
GENERALCONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
STATISTICIANSCES/SEM.43/6 (Summary)
20 January 2000

Original: ENGLISH

Seminar on integrated statistical information
systems and related matters (ISIS 2000)

(Riga, Latvia, 29-31 May 2000)

Topic I: Data warehousing and the development and use
of statistical databases in a network environment

**THE IDEAL WAREHOUSE - INTEGRATED, INTEROPERABLE, INTERDISCIPLINARY
AND INTERNATIONAL**

Invited paper

Submitted by the Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom¹

SUMMARY

1. This paper examines the different requirements and needs of the provider, broker and user of statistics in the process of design and implementation of the statistical warehouse.
2. Data owners or providers - who turn raw data into information through the process of acquiring, cleaning, collating, analysing, and, sometimes, disseminating statistics - want a mechanism which can support their data management and data stewardship responsibilities (encompassing such matters as metadata, archiving, data security, data protection, data harmonisation, data access, etc). They also want a system which will allow them to supply their data and accompanying integrated metadata once, and once-only, to a single repository into which all their customers and on-users can dip in order to meet their own needs. In return they want market intelligence and user feedback about their data.
3. Information intermediaries (publishers, brokers, database-managers, webmasters, on-sellers, archivists, international organisations, etc.) - who are involved in the business of integrating metadata and data from a whole host of separate suppliers into coherent package of information and passing it onto the end-user - want a delivery model that will supply them with harmonised statistical material in a

1 Prepared by James Denman.

standard format which they distribute to customers as a coherent and integrated package - either free or for a charge.

4. Information users - whose purposes are too numerous to list - want fast, open and on-line access to a single gateway from where they can interact with multiple, diverse systems, interfaces, search systems and contacts in order to identify and locate suitable information resources which are accurate, up-to-date, and harmonised and which they can either view, or download for manipulation to their own PC in whatever format they prefer.

5. The paper explores these separate requirements in the light of enabling technologies (e.g. communication protocols and transfer formats) and proposes an architecture which might serve supplier, intermediary and users objectives simultaneously - the so-called 'dream scene'.