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Testbed Participants Selected

On July 14th, CTG held a Kickoff Meeting for the five New York State agencies that have been selected to participate in its testbed project: "Web Site Management Using XML." This project is designed to assist the agencies in examining the benefits and challenges of adopting XML and new management approaches for managing their Web content.

The five agencies participating in the project are:

- Department of Civil Service
- Division of Housing and Community Renewal
- Higher Education Services Corporation
- Office of Cultural Education
- Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence.

The agency project teams gave presentations on their proposed testbed projects at the Kickoff Meeting and have since all received Making Smart IT Choices training and are signed up to attend XML training sessions in August.

To learn more, see the project pages at <http://www.ctg.albany.edu/projects/xmltb>.

CTG and SAP Collaborate on Public ROI Workshop

On July 13, 2005, CTG, in collaboration with SAP, hosted a consultative workshop on assessing public return on government investments in IT. A select international group of 22 experts from government, academia and the private sector were invited to meet with researchers from CTG to discuss the core issues and themes that make assessing public ROI for IT investments such a complex and difficult problem.

CTG will share the results of these deliberations with workshop participants in an effort to continue the dialog and work toward new public ROI assessment methods and produce a white paper on the subject. CTG expects that the results of the workshop, case studies, and white paper will make a major contribution to the ability of governments of all types to enhance the political, social, and economic value they obtain from IT investments.

For more information, please contact Brian Burke at 518.442.3895

CTG Releases Report on the Use of Parcel Data in New York State

CTG recently completed the report titled "Use of Parcel Data in New York State: A Reconnaissance Study." The study was sponsored by the New York State Office of Real Property Services with the goal of providing information to help shape strategies for broader understanding and more effective use of parcel data in New York State. It documents the current and potential uses of parcel data, its value to many different kinds of organizations, and the typical flow of data across government and non-governmental boundaries. The findings of the study demonstrate the potential benefits, and the key difficulties, of treating parcel data as a collective or statewide information resource and points to opportunities for collaboration.

The report can be downloaded at: http://www.ctg.albany.edu/publications/reports/use_of_parcel_data.