



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VA Privacy Service

Privacy in Action Speaker Series Event Resource Guide

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Privacy Service, thank you for participating in the *Privacy in Action* Speaker Series event, “Privacy’s Role in IT Modernization: The Discussion Continues.” We hope you found the information presented by our panelists insightful and meaningful to your daily work. Below is a recap of the main topics discussed today, with links to additional information.

Modernization

According to GovLoop, information technology (IT) modernization is defined as “the continuous evolution of an organization’s existing application and infrastructure software, with the goal of aligning IT with the organization’s ever-shifting business strategies.”¹

Since our 2018 Speaker Series event on this topic, VA and the Office of Information and Technology (OIT) have worked aggressively towards VA’s Digital Transformation. As noted in the OIT 2019 Midyear Review “June 6, 2019 marked a significant date in VA history: the enactment of the *Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018*, better known as the MISSION Act. This legislation expanded community care options for Veterans who previously faced long drives or wait times, allowing them to seek care from community providers.” VA has also made progress on appeals modernization, with its new Benefits Appeals Status tool, relieving the burden of VA’s legacy appeals process for over 24 million Veterans. VA’s approach to information security protects Veteran data by guarding against inbound threats and other data-exposing incidents. Through May 2019, VA blocked 295 million malware attempts and blocked 1.2 billion emails.²

More information

Information and Articles Links

- **Report to the President on Federal IT Modernization**
 - <https://itmodernization.cio.gov/>
- **Modernizing Government 2019 Budget Fact Sheet**
 - https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/FY19-Budget-Fact-Sheet_Modernizing-Government.pdf
- **Implementation of the Modernizing Government Technology Act**
 - <https://policy.cio.gov/modernizing-government-technology/>

¹ “Your Roadmap to IT Modernization,” GovLoop, accessed June 27, 2018, <https://www.govloop.com/resources/your-roadmap-to-it-modernization/>

² 2019 Midyear Review, <https://www.oit.va.gov/>

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- **Eliminating the growing pains of government IT modernization**
 - <https://www.federaltimes.com/opinions/2019/06/04/eliminating-the-growing-pains-of-government-it-modernization/>
- **The Impact of Leadership on Modernization**
 - <https://www.govloop.com/the-impact-of-leadership-on-modernization/>

Events

- **August 22, 2019 – Are Automation and Cloud the Secret Sauce of Modernization?**
 - <https://www.govloop.com/training/august-22-are-automation-and-cloud-the-secret-sauce-of-modernization/>
- **September 25 - 27, 2019 VA Benefits Modernization Conference**
 - https://www.idga.org/events-veteransaffairsbenefits?mac=IDGA_Events_Title_Listing

Videos

- **Where Is Federal IT Modernization Headed in 2019?**
 - <https://fedtechmagazine.com/article/2018/10/where-federal-it-modernization-headed-2019>
- **The Journey to Technology Modernization in Government**
 - <https://www.pega.com/industries/government/fnn-technology-modernization-part-2>

Podcasts

- **IT Modernization in Government 2019 "Progress & Best Practices"**
 - <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/federal-executive-forum/2019/03/it-modernization-in-government-2019-progress-best-practices/>
- **Why Technology Solutions Alone don't Solve Government's Modernization Woes**
 - <https://www.fedscoop.com/radio/technology-solutions-dont-solve-governments-it-modernization-woes/>

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