

Copyright Office Modernization

Quick Facts – March 2019

The Copyright Office is modernizing, which means that we are **1** building a new enterprise copyright system (ECS) featuring a user-centered and flexible design, **2** streamlining processes and policies, **3** improving access, and **4** reimagining the entire Office.

There are several major efforts in modernization:

Developing the ECS

The ECS will automate Office workflows and serve as the online public interface to the Copyright Office. Currently, the ECS's three main development focus areas are recordation (ongoing), registration (anticipated start fall 2019), and system of public record (anticipated start fall 2019). Since the December 2018 Modernization Quick Facts, the Office has:

- Received 207 comments from the copyright community in response to our November recordation survey. The Office is analyzing the survey results now and will use them to help develop requirements for the ECS.
- Received fifty-four comments responding to a notice of inquiry soliciting public input on a broad range of topics regarding registration modernization. The Office currently is analyzing the comments to help inform ECS development efforts and other potential next steps.
- Continued to gather and prioritize requirements for the new system of public record initiative that will eventually replace the current public catalog system.

Comprehensive Access to Public Records

Since the last Quick Facts, the Copyright Office continues to work on improving access to public records, including by:

- Continuing to assess historical public records, both those housed within legacy systems and those not easily accessible to the public online. The Office is in the process of converting the extensive, paper-based pre-1978 entries into digital format to make them accessible and searchable online.
- Released a new version of the proof of concept for the Virtual Card Catalog (VCC) in March. The VCC allows the public to browse the drawers from 1955 through 1977 and conduct a limited text search on the cards. The March release added images from 1870 through 1954, and now the VCC contains nearly all of the Office's cards. The Office is currently performing quality checks for data related to the images (i.e., metadata).

- Additionally, the Office is digitizing more than 26,000 record books. These images are being scanned to extract metadata to enable a robust search. The Office continues to perform quality assurance for these images. This is a multi-year effort.

Data Management Initiative

Data management continues to be an important focus of the Copyright Office's modernization efforts. Since the last Quick Facts, the Office has:

- Completed both (1) the initial data management plan for Office data, and (2) the initial enterprise data model, which will govern how data is stored and connected within the ECS.
- A business intelligence (BI) and data analytics solution will yield better insight into how the copyright community utilizes Copyright Office systems.
- Continued developing a data migration plan to determine how data is transferred between existing systems, and how that data will be transferred to the ECS.

Project Management Framework

- The CMO Program Management Section has completed a PM framework. The PM framework is a procedural document that correlates to the Library's project management overarching policy, providing a living document of guidance and instruction.

Business Process Reengineering

The Copyright Office's business process reengineering efforts are ongoing and include a number of different activities, including the following since the last Quick Facts:

- Streamlining acquisition functions to house them in the Copyright Modernization Office (CMO), which provides procurement expertise to help acquire mission needed goods and services. This new process will better allow the Office to more efficiently procure goods and services in a uniform manner.

We were recently recognized by Congress as the Legislative branch subject matter experts in acquisition certifications.

- Continuing to partner with the Office of Personnel Management on a workload analysis and an organizational analysis and redesign to ensure that the Office is optimally staffed and structured for post-modernization.
- Actively working on procurement, with the BPR procurement package under review. The Office is planning for a spring 2019 contract award.

Outreach

It is important that the Copyright Office continues to keep the public informed about our progress. In addition to these recently launched Quick Fact sheets, the Office has engaged in the following outreach efforts since December:

- Established a bimonthly webinar series to keep the public up to date on ECS progress and focus areas. The first webinar, held on January 31, 2019, provided a broad overview of modernization. The March 28, 2019, webinar focused on user-centered design principals and the importance of testing with internal and external audiences.
- CMO director Ricardo Farraj-Feijoo appeared as a panelist on the Government Matters 2019 Tech Leadership Series, hosted on WJLA-TV. This program brought together thought leaders for both public and private sectors to discuss IT modernization. Farraj-Feijoo discussed ongoing Copyright Office modernization activities and findings.

Please contact us at askcmo@copyright.gov for more information or to get involved.