

# Marine Metadata Interoperability Project: Increasing Community Collaboration

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## Participation

### Join MMI

- **Become part of an active community dedicated to interoperability in marine science.**
- **Find all the resources and guidance you need, in one convenient place.**
- **Help build the community and raise visibility for your projects and tools.**



### Access Metadata Resources on our Web Site

See our comprehensive listings and descriptions of standard vocabularies, ontologies, metadata content standards; learn about the on-going projects and workshops; discover tools and read descriptions, use cases, and user experiences to help you navigate the field.

### Join the new Tools DIVE

MMI's newest initiative will begin in January, 2008, to research tools and related technologies for ocean science data. Scientists, technologists, and data managers are invited to join this short-term working group to:

- D**iscover available metadata technologies,
- I**nvestigate each technological option,
- V**alidate the best and most appropriate technology objectively, and
- E**ducate the community with the findings.

See <http://marinemetadata.org/dive> for more information.

### Submit an article about your project

Let us feature your work on our site. Get feedback and raise visibility about your project within the most active community dedicated to marine metadata interoperability.

## Guides to Metadata

### Comprehensive help with metadata

#### MMI Guides

Navigating the complex world of metadata is challenging. In the guides section of MMI you'll find information about:

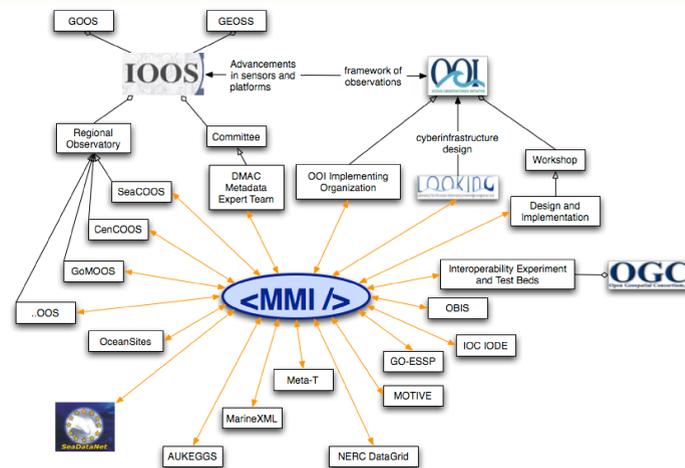
- **metadata standards,**
- **controlled vocabularies,**
- **technical tools,**
- **case studies, and much more.**



Scaling from introductory material about basic metadata terms and concepts through to in-depth discussions of the technical aspects of interoperability, it provides a roadmap for technologists, scientists, and data managers of all expertise levels. This continually-expanding resource is provided by practicing scientists and technologists, and we invite your contributions.

## Community Guidance

Developing best practices, information resources, and tools to enhance major initiatives in ocean science.



## Collaboration

### Building Community on the Web

The MMI project is a community centered program that relies on its members to contribute ideas and news, to share techniques and information, and to build consensus on issues in marine science data management. We want to provide a web site that makes it easy to participate and to contribute, that helps support the community. We chose the Drupal content management system for this project.

#### Drupal highlights include:

**Organic Groups** for building collaboration - standing committees and ad-hoc groups can create workspaces on the website to work on specific projects or to further the MMI mission

**Taxonomy at its core** - Drupal uses a powerful taxonomy-based architecture to create views of information and menus. Taxonomic technology is at the core of MMI's metadata-related mission.

**Simplified Maintenance** - addition of new modules (there are hundreds), user management, and other site management tasks are straightforward in Drupal. Its LAMP (Linux, Apache, MySQL, Php) architecture ensures a strong base of knowledgeable developers to draw on for support

**Active and Engaged Support Community** - module developers are responsive to the user community, modules are tested and debugged thoroughly and quickly, and contributors on the drupal.org site are ready and willing to help and encourage Drupal users.

#### Website Redesign

We hope to roll out our redesigned MMI website in early 2008. The new site will encourage collaboration on metadata projects and issues using new 'organic group' environments. It features contextual menus, an information architecture based on an extensible resource taxonomy, and new tools for content creation, review and comment. Drupal will support the integration of wiki, RSS, vocabulary management, and other features in future versions of the MMI website.

