

DATA ACT IMPLEMENTATION



HJS assists government agencies reach the goal of producing reliable, timely, secure and consumable financial information

We support a “data centric” implementation approach:

- Avoiding major system changes
- Focusing on managing data
- Maximizing and leveraging existing processes and investments

We provide consulting assistance to both Public and Private sector clients.



H.J. STEININGER PLLC
Business Advisory and Assurance Services

DATA ACT LEGISLATION & GUIDANCE

DATA ACT BECOMES A LAW In May 2014, President Obama signed the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act) (P.L. 113-101) into law. Once implemented, the DATA Act will make Federal spending data more accessible, searchable and reliable. It will not only make it easier to understand how the Federal Government spends money, but also serve as a tool for better oversight, management decision-making, and innovation both inside and outside of government. The U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) are leading the government-wide implementation of the DATA Act.

DATA STANDARDS The overall data standardization effort consists of two parallel, yet related efforts:

- Setting data standards that improve the quality of federal spending data
- Creating a standard data exchange (the way data is submitted) to codify this data in standard computer readable formats

OMB and Treasury are standardizing the data elements through a collaborative and ongoing process.

AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION On May 8, 2015, OMB issued a memorandum (M15-12), *“Increasing Transparency of Federal Spending by Making Federal Spending Data Accessible, Searchable, and Reliable.”* This memorandum outlines how Federal agencies will implement the new DATA Act requirements and their ongoing reporting responsibilities for USAspending.gov.

To assist agencies with implementation, OMB and Treasury have also created a playbook of eight recommendations that, if followed together, will help agencies fulfill the requirements of the DATA Act by leveraging existing capabilities and streamlining implementation efforts:

- **Organize Your Team:** Create an agency DATA Act work group, including impacted communities within your agency and designate a Senior Accountability Officer (SAO)
- **Review Elements:** Review the list of Data Act elements and participate in data definitions standardization
- **Inventory Data:** Perform an inventory of agency data and associated business processes and systems
- **Design & Strategize:** Plan changes to systems and business processes to capture financial, procurement, and financial assistance data
- **Execute Broker:** Implement a “broker” at the agency. The broker is a virtual data layer at the agency that maps, ingests, transforms, validates, and submits agency data into a format consistent with the DATA Act Schema (i.e., data exchange standards)
- **Test Broker Implementation:** Test broker outputs to ensure data are accurate and reliable
- **Update Systems:** Implement other system changes (e.g., establish linkages between program and financial data, and capture any new data)
- **Submit Data:** Update and refine process

Our HJS technical approach and solutions are designed to help government agencies maximize their implementation design and effectiveness.



DATA ACT TEAM LEADERSHIP

EXECUTIVE-IN-CHARGE

DICK GREGG, Managing Director, Financial Services

- Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury
- Co-Chair, AGA Data Act Work Group
- Data Transparency Coalition Advisory Board

TEAM LEADERS

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MARKET FOCUSED. SOLUTIONS ORIENTED.

Through engagement with clients and teaming partners, HJS provides solutions that achieve measurable results to assist clients in meeting their goals. We deliver executive-level expertise and leadership in addressing the needs in the federal government.

Our current areas of focus include:

Federal Program Initiatives

- Data Act Implementation
- Financial Systems Modernization and Federal Shared Services
- Cyber Security
- Internal Controls
- Department of Defense Audit Readiness and Financial Statements Audits

Key Information Technologies

- Data Centric Software and Reporting
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Related Application Software
- Cyber Security and Continuous Monitoring Solutions
- Cloud Computing
- Big Data, Data Analytics and Forensics

If you are interested in exploring Advisory services from HJS, please contact **Dick Gregg**, dick@HJSpllc.com or **Hank Steininger**, hank@HJSpllc.com.



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