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Beyond Information Sharing

By [Paul Wormeli](#)

Have you ever thought about what things might be like when we become really successful in introducing the notion that all information should be shared wherever it is needed? Would we, as some have suggested, be drinking out of a fire hose of information? Would we be so overwhelmed that we can't absorb it? Then what will we do?

NAJIS 2014 - AN EXCERPT FROM KEYNOTE SPEAKER, PAUL WORMELI

The reality is that we are getting to the point where this might be our biggest problem: How to make sense of and apply the information that we have been able to share; how to apply it to make better decisions; how to sift through the irrelevant information to find what we really need to know. If we continue on the path of success in building information sharing into the very fabric of criminal justice and homeland security processes, we are likely to be in the position before too long that will require answering these questions.

We'd be smarter to anticipate this time and see what will be our next focus. What new methods and vehicles for disseminating, analyzing, absorbing, and applying information do we want to emerge so as to enable us to handle the fire hose?

Some elements of the next wave of information handling are already emerging that will give us a basis for figuring out the next dimension. We are more frequently calling upon the techniques and models developed in the discipline of knowledge management to determine how to extract knowledge from information. We are creating entities like real-time crime centers to cull just the essence of situational awareness from the mountains of information that we have available. We have created a tsunami of open data sites in 200 or more cities. Thanks to the wildfire of social media adoption, we have enabled tweeting of news in 140 character capsules, thus limiting the content we must swallow with each portion of information but vastly increasing the number of such messages we may encounter.

It is worth reflecting on the directions we might want the technology to take us, in an effort to shape our information future rather than just respond to the CyberDynamic world.

JOIN US SEPT 22-25, FOR THE 2014, 32ND ANNUAL NAJIS CONFERENCE IN SALT LAKE CITY, TO DISCOVER NEW SKILLS, METHODS, AND MODELS TO DIGEST AND MANAGE INFORMATION IN WAYS THAT WILL BENEFIT YOUR ORGANIZATION.

NAJIS conferences are geared to educate and demonstrate best practices for justice information system implementation and business process flow. IT technologies and standards that improve and engineer information sharing are explored in depth. Presentations are fashioned for both technical and non-technical audiences.

What makes NAJIS conferences most invaluable, are the networking opportunities that emerge at each conference. Participants frequently remark about how they discovered another attendee's justice venture closely mirrored a project that they were involved in, or about to begin. Repeatedly, these associations have provided cost saving information and analytical techniques to better prepare managers and IT professionals for their own endeavors. Networking opportunities, information sharing, synergy, emerging technologies, business continuity planning, it's all core material for the NAJIS program!