1. The primary purpose of the Enterprise Architecture (EA) is to inform and guide the decisions of the enterprise, especially as they pertain to Information Technology (IT) standards and investments. The VA Technical Reference Model (TRM) is one component within the overall EA that establishes a common vocabulary and structure for describing the information technology used to develop, operate, and maintain enterprise applications and systems. Moreover, the TRM, which includes the Standards Profile and Product List, collectively serve as a technology roadmap for OIT.

2. The official VA TRM site is http://trm.oit.va.gov/. I am directing that all OIT staff and contractors use this site to ensure all technology program and projects comply with a single TRM. While the site will contain all of the content currently published in multiple TRMs, the VA TRM will undergo significant changes during the next few months as we complete the integration process and make necessary changes to ensure that all information is current and consistent. We expect these changes to be finalized by June 1, 2010.

3. The site includes directions for use as well as the process for submitting new standards and technologies to be evaluated and included in future releases of the TRM. Users can search for technical standards and technologies, generate reports, review forecasts, and access release histories.

4. Your adherence to this TRM is essential to improving the technical environment within VA. Enterprise Strategy, Policy, Plans, and Programs (ESPPP), and specifically Applied Architecture Service (AAS), has overall responsibility for the TRM and will maintain configuration control. AAS will be responsible for the TRM process and Enterprise Operations and Field Development (EOFD), Information Protection and Risk Management (IPRM) and the Office of Enterprise Development (OED) will be responsible for providing the TRM content and ensuring its quality. Please assist in making this effort a success by providing your support and cooperation.
5. If you have any questions, please contact Fred Graham, Director, Applied Architecture Service, via email at freddie.graham@va.gov, or by phone at 202-461-4355.

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