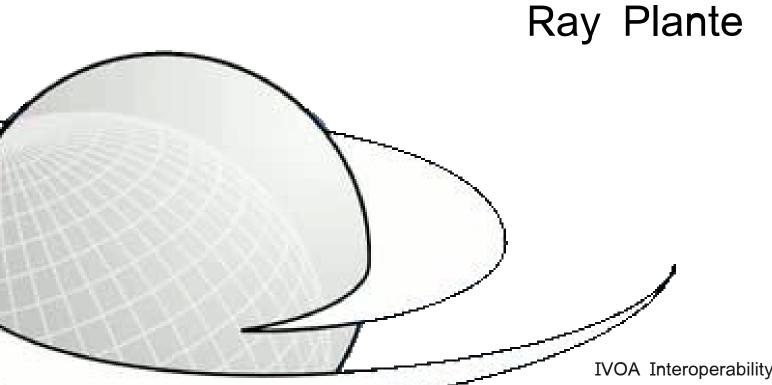# THE INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL OBSERVATORY ALLIANCE

Special Session: Validation & Verification
Review of Past Discussions

Ray Plante

Agenda

- Today: Operations and Applications
  - Review of past discussions (Ray)
  - Service Monitoring
    - VAO Monitoring: an update (Tom)
    - Discussion
  - Application Development
    - Testimonials welcome
    - Discussion

- Thursday: Curation and Compliance
  - Registry Maintenance and Curation
  - Status of Service Validaters
    - Call for community participation
  - DAL Service toolkits
    - Status from Christophe Arviset, Pat Dowler, Laurent Michel, Doug Tody

Challenges

- For users...
  - Find services that don't exist or fail
  - Services that don't work properly
  - Can make workflows impossible

- For application developers...
  - Require good compliance
  - Not practically possible to filter on compliance
  - Registry compliance, consistency particularly important

- For data providers...
  - How do they ensure deployment of "good" services?
  - How do they (we) keep cost of "good" services low?
  - How do we encourage good registry descriptions

Operational Strategies

- Making Validaters widely available
  - Work: Building, Validating a Validater
  - IVOA Ownership of validating
  - Reveals problems with standards
    - Can we do errata/fast-track revision of standards?
  - Update and Discussion on Thursday

- Service Toolkits
  - General configure-and-play implementations of IVOA standard service protocols
  - Reduce cost, improve quality
  - Update and Discussion on Thursday

Operational Strategies

- Monitoring Health of the VO
  - Snapshots of what's up
  - Periodic re-validation of services
  - Communication with publishers about problems
  - Update from Tom

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Registry Maintenance

- RegistryGuide Twiki
  - To capture registry maintenance practices
  - To capture recommended use strategies
    - Recommended queries (e.g. how to retrieve all SIA services)
- Registry Search interface validater needed
- Improvements in Publishing Interfaces needed
- Registry Issue Tracker
  - Registry admins as members
  - Track reported problems, special requests
  - Coordinate inter-project resolution
- Registry Curation Practices
  - ValidationLevel: rating of a Registry record's compliance and quality
    - Set by Registry curators according to local standards
    - Can by used by applications to filter for services
  - Develop policies for rating resources via ValidationLevel

Discussion Questions

- Operational Health

    1. What further international effort or coordination is needed?

    2. What documentation should we make available to providers? How do we enlist projects to invest in documentation?

Discussion Questions

- Application Development

  1. Which issues of reliability/compliance give the greatest challenge to developers?

  2. How can we ease these challenges?

Discussion Questions

- Review of past discussions/efforts

  1. Are these recommendations still relevant?