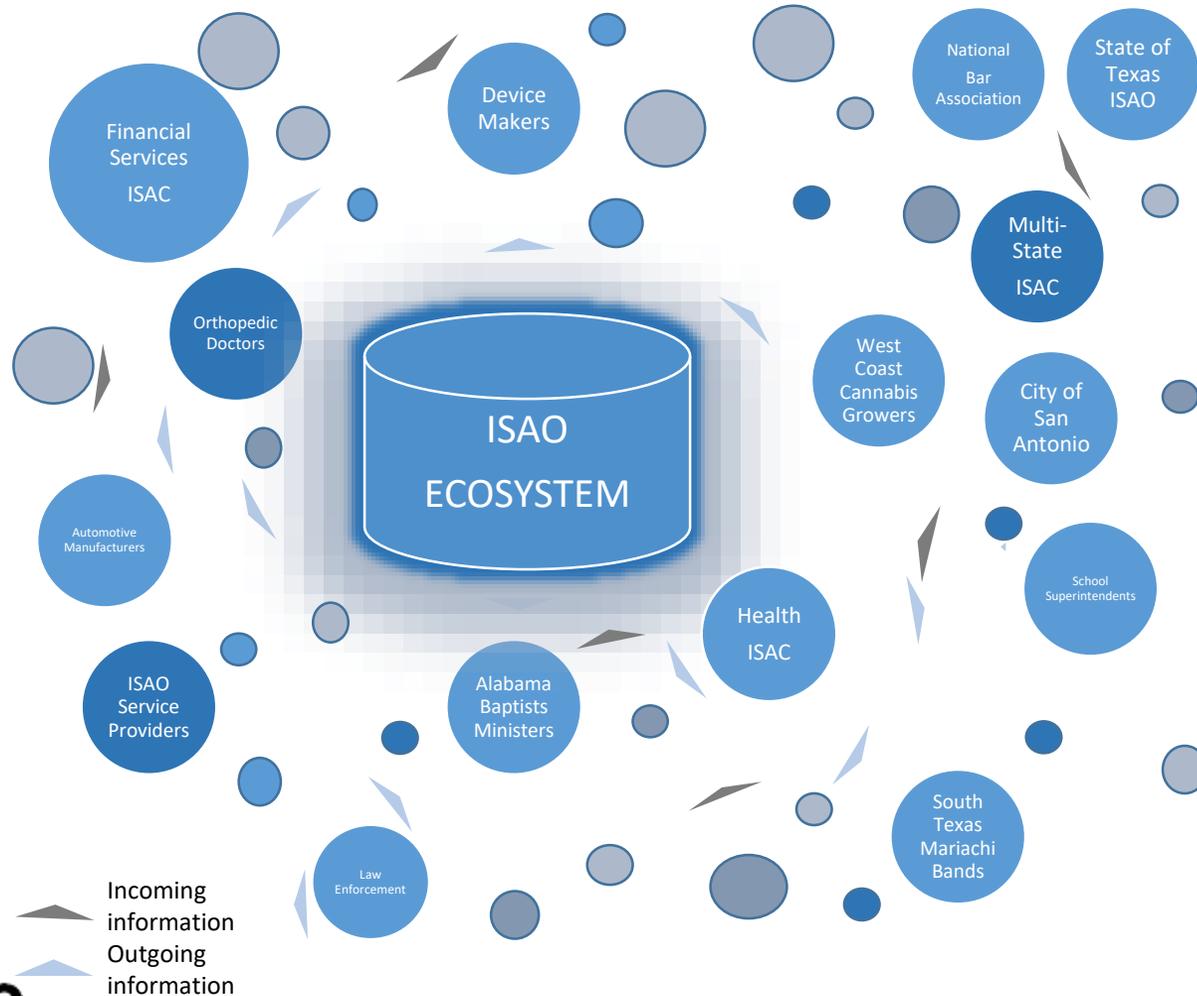




Trust and the Ecosystem

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Remember the Challenge (1000's of ISAOs) (slightly modified slide from an early DHS briefing)



Game Changer

From ~ 16 Sector -based entities with varying ideas of ISAC member qualification and requirements..... to



1000s of potential sharing entities (with unlimited numbers of members) built on baseline requirements for trusted sharing.

Large Scale Information Sharing is not Easy

- A number of major issues need to be considered, among which are two somewhat related issues concerning information that we receive:
 - How do we ensure the information we receive is **useful** (e.g. how do we ensure that it is timely and that we haven't received it already). Related to this is the issue of Information Overload.
 - How do we **trust** the information we receive? Are there levels of trust?
- We will leave the issue of determining the usefulness of information received for a later discussion. Instead we will focus on trust in this presentation.

Current Ways Trust is Established

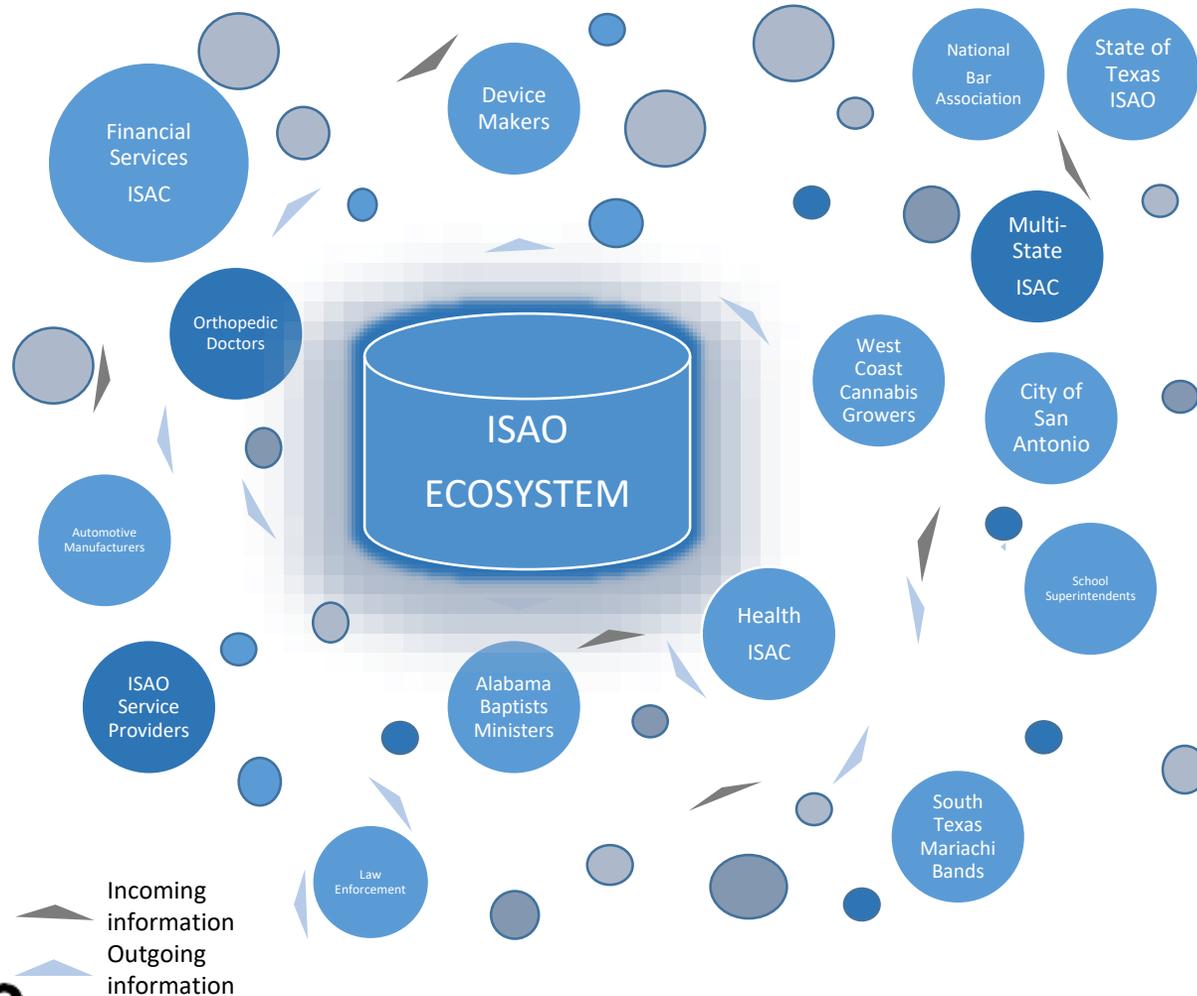
- Personal Relationships
 - When I get to know somebody, a certain level of trust is established over time.
 - SLF in San Antonio an example of this
- Clearances
 - When I provide another individual with information based on a clearance, I am trusting the third party who conducted the investigation and awarded the clearance (i.e. the government).
 - Because of the clearance and my trust in the process, I am confident that I can place a certain level of trust in the individual.

But These are not the Total Answer

- Personal Relationships
 - Take time to establish
 - Can be accomplished online, but in-person best and that requires proximity
- Clearances
 - Costly
 - Often take a long time
 - We will likely never have enough for all ISAOs

Trusted sharing part of the challenge

(slightly modified slide from an early DHS briefing)



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Self-Certification

- The original DHS NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) stated:
“To this end, the EO directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to:
 - *Encourage the development and formation of Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations (ISAOs),*
 - *Enter into an agreement with a nongovernmental organization (standards organization) to identify a common set of voluntary standards for the creation and functioning of ISAOs. The standards will address **the baseline capabilities** that ISAOs under this order should possess and be able to demonstrate **if they self-certify as an ISAO.**”*

Establishment of an ISAO Certification Process

- The ISAO SO proposes establishing an ISAO certification process.
- It may include different types of certifications
 - Self-certification
 - Baseline Certification
 - Certification of Additional Capabilities
- The initial proposal containing the basic thoughts on the certification criteria and process will be posted for public comment in November.
- Certification will be VOLUNTARY.

Self Certification

- We propose that self certification be based on ISAO 200-1 Foundational Services and Capabilities
- Self-certification would allow an emerging ISAO to determine “are we on the right track”
- May not lead to a major increase in the level of trust in the self-certified ISAO but is a first step toward eventual certification if desired. It may also be a differentiator between the ISAO and other ISAOs.

Baseline Certification

- We propose that a Baseline Certification should be based on ISAO 200-1 Foundational Services and Capabilities and the criteria for self-certification
 - It may simply be a 3rd party validation of the ISAOs self-certification
- Baseline certification should primarily look at what the ISAO is doing, not how.
 - For example, there are many ways to share information, the certification should not tell them how they must accomplish it
- We would anticipate periodic re-certifications to verify the continued adherence to the requirements

Certification of Additional Capabilities

- There will be many additional capabilities and services that an ISAO can offer its members that will not be part of the baseline.
- We propose a method to conduct certifications for these additional capabilities and services offered by ISAOs.
 - The criteria for common capabilities/services should be established
 - The criteria for unique capabilities could be created as needed, working with the ISAO or vendor that offers the capability to establish the criteria.
- All established criteria should be periodically re-visited to ensure their currency and that the environment hasn't changed necessitating a change in the criteria.

Profiles for Sharing

- The ISAO SO will not dictate what services or capabilities an ISAO must offer in order to conduct “trusted sharing” with certain other entities.
 - For example, the criteria to share certain information or to have a “seat on the floor” at the NCCIC should be established by the NCCIC. Certification for the NCCIC should be based on their requirements.
 - A state may want community or industry ISAOs to meet certain criteria to be a trusted partner with the state.
 - ISAOs may look for specific criteria before sharing with other ISAOs
- ISAO certification should be based on the criteria established for these profiles

Who Will Conduct the Certifications?

- Initially, we propose that the ISAO SO conduct the certifications
 - To verify that the criteria and processes are what the ecosystem needs them to be.
- When the info sharing community is satisfied with the criteria, the ISAO SO should switch to an accreditation mode where it will accredit other organizations to conduct and award the certifications based on the established criteria.
 - The ISAO SO would then remain the “keeper of the criteria”

Final Thoughts

- Currently no criteria for calling yourself an ISAO or ISAC
- One additional benefit of a certification program is to help prospective members of the ISAO to know which ISAO they may want to be a member of.
 - Do the current ISAOs offer the capabilities/services they want?
- Not all ISAOs will want or need to become certified or even conduct a self certification
 - For entities already in trusted relationships there may not be a need to become certified
 - For many ISAOs who are consumers more than producers (such as the Mariachi Band ISAO), they may not need to be certified
 - Certifications would be for those ISAOs who need to establish a trust relationship and don't have another means to easily do it
- Certification can help organizations determine whose information they can have a level of trust in. This can help with the issue of “bad actors” being inserted into the ecosystem.

We Request Your Feedback

- The ISAO SO is convinced of the benefits and need for a certification program.
- We do not believe that we have all of the answers on what the criteria or processes should be. The proposal that will be posted is NOT the final product – it is an early stage proposal!!!
- We fully recognize that this is a complicated issue, but we need to plan now for how the ecosystem will handle 100's or 1000's of ISAOs.
- We want and need your input on the proposed certification program and would ask you to download and provide comments when it is posted in November.
 - It will be found for comment on ISAO.org



Thanks for Attending the IISC!

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