

# Sharing Learning Content: Beyond the Technology

**Damon Regan**

The Tolliver Group /  
Advanced Distributed Learning

**David Twitchell**

Department of Veterans Affairs

**Thomas Archibald**

The Tolliver Group /  
Advanced Distributed Learning

**Dean Marvin**

Katmai Support Services /  
Advanced Distributed Learning



# Topics

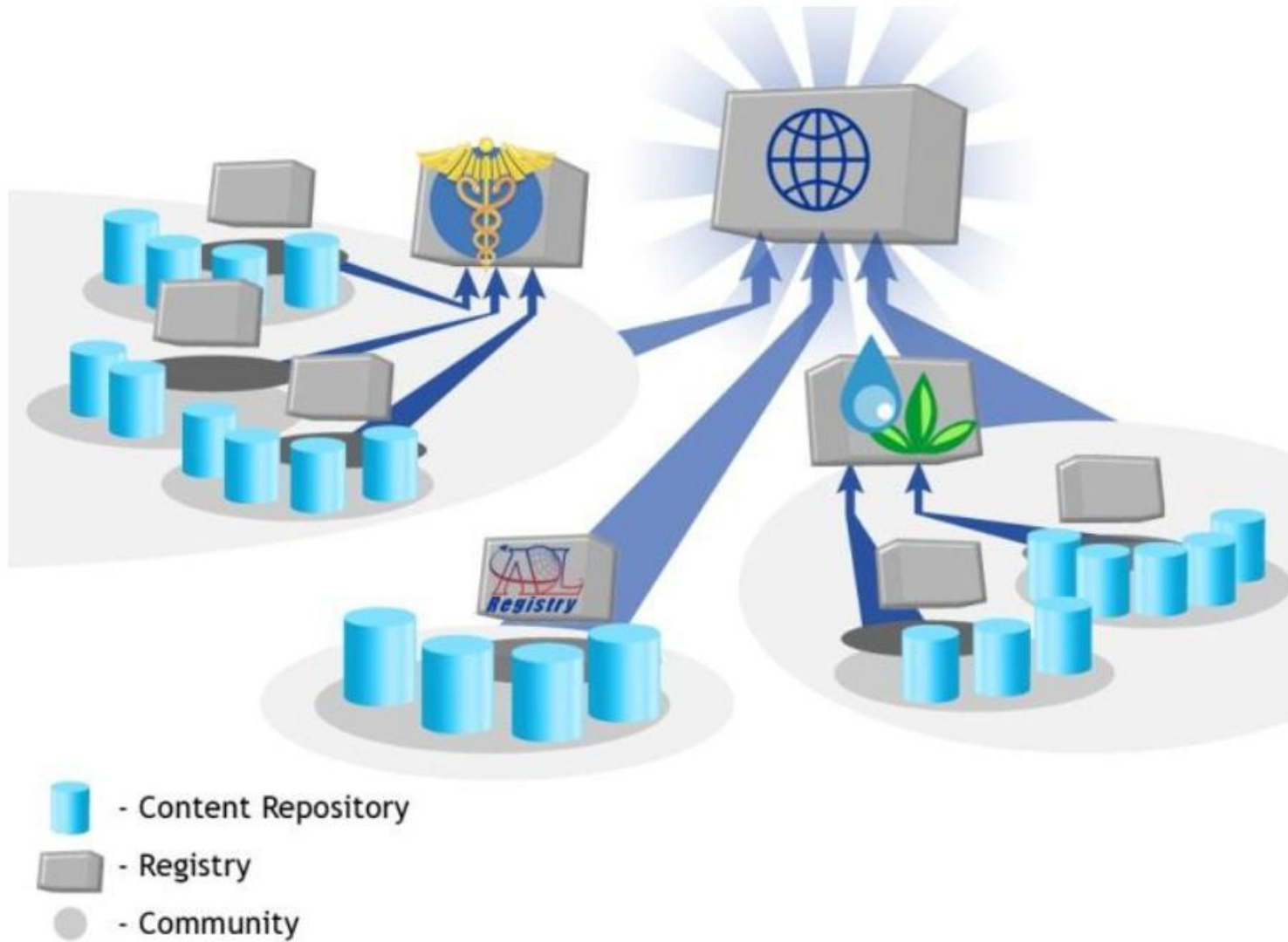
- ▶ **Goals**
- ▶ **DITIS**
- ▶ **CORDRA and the ADL Registry**
- ▶ **Content Repositories**
- ▶ **Human Perspective**
- ▶ **Growing the Sharing Community**

# Goals

- **Efficient processes in an era of declining budgets**
- **Efficiency through reuse of existing learning materials**

- In an effort to facilitate the sharing of interactive courseware (ICW) the DoD
  - established the Defense Instructional Technology Information System (DITIS) database
  - issued a policy (DOD Instruction 1322.20) directing use along with procedures for developing and managing interactive courseware throughout the life of the courseware.

# CORDRA and the ADL Registry



# Content Repositories

Type of System	Purpose
LMS	Delivery
LCMS	Centralized Authoring
Repository	Content Management
Registry	Discovery

# Human Perspective

- Content owners want to share content
  - They see the value in sharing, but the constraints prohibit ease of sharing
  - The reluctance of content owners to upload their valuable content is understandable
- Content owners need
  - Clear procedures and fixed rules to make his or her content discoverable and accessible
  - Use-rights and copyrights need to be maintained and managed

# Creating an Attitude of Sharing

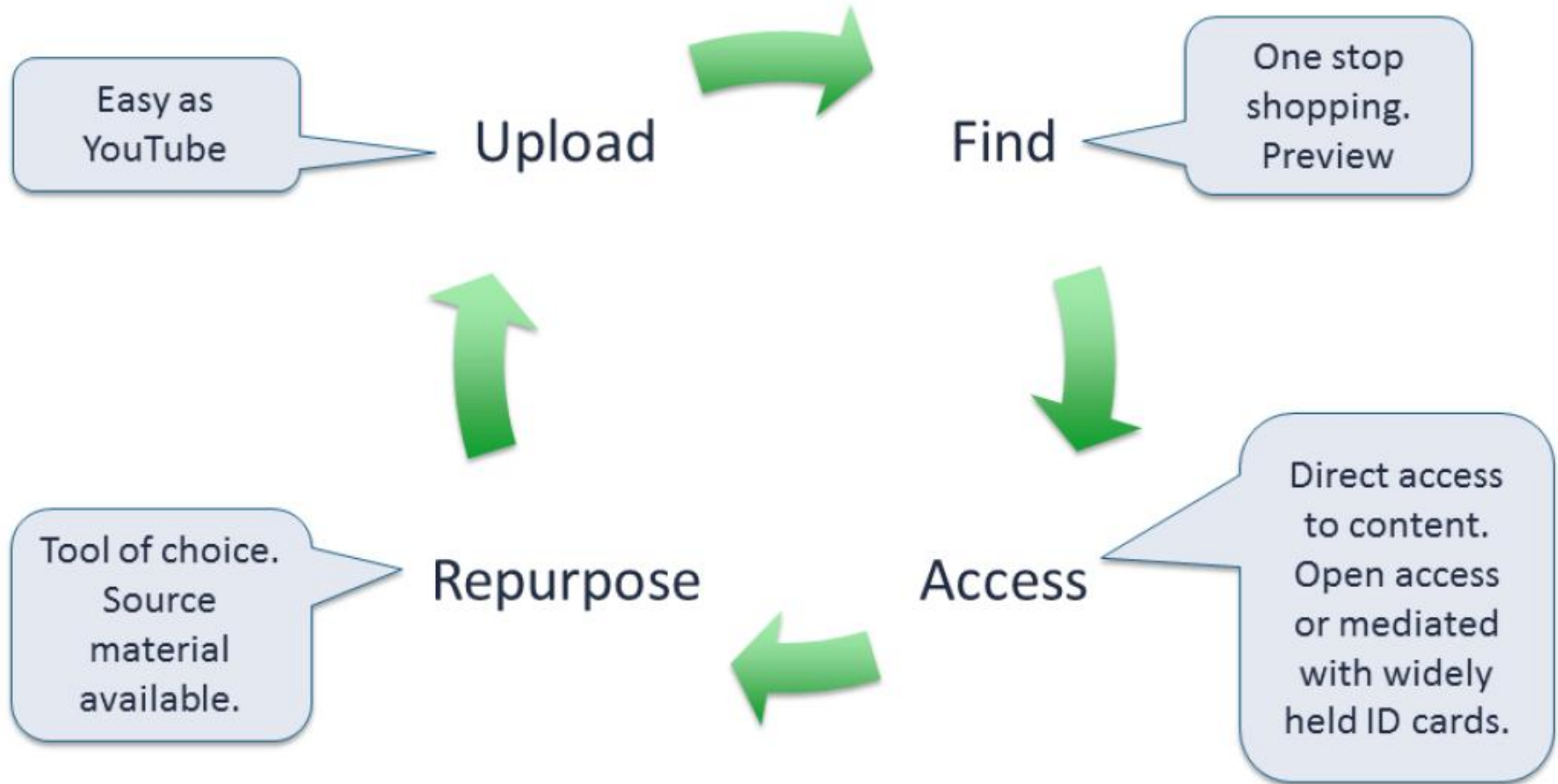
- Creating a positive disposition toward content re-use must include several factors:
  - Choosing to create content that is meant for sharing,
  - Promoting processes and policies to search for content to re-use in internal development and
  - Participating in pioneering content reuse efforts by risking organizational and personal time, effort, and ownership
- Leading to a tipping point?
  - Metadata: content discovery
  - Volume and quality of content (courses, lessons, objects, assets)



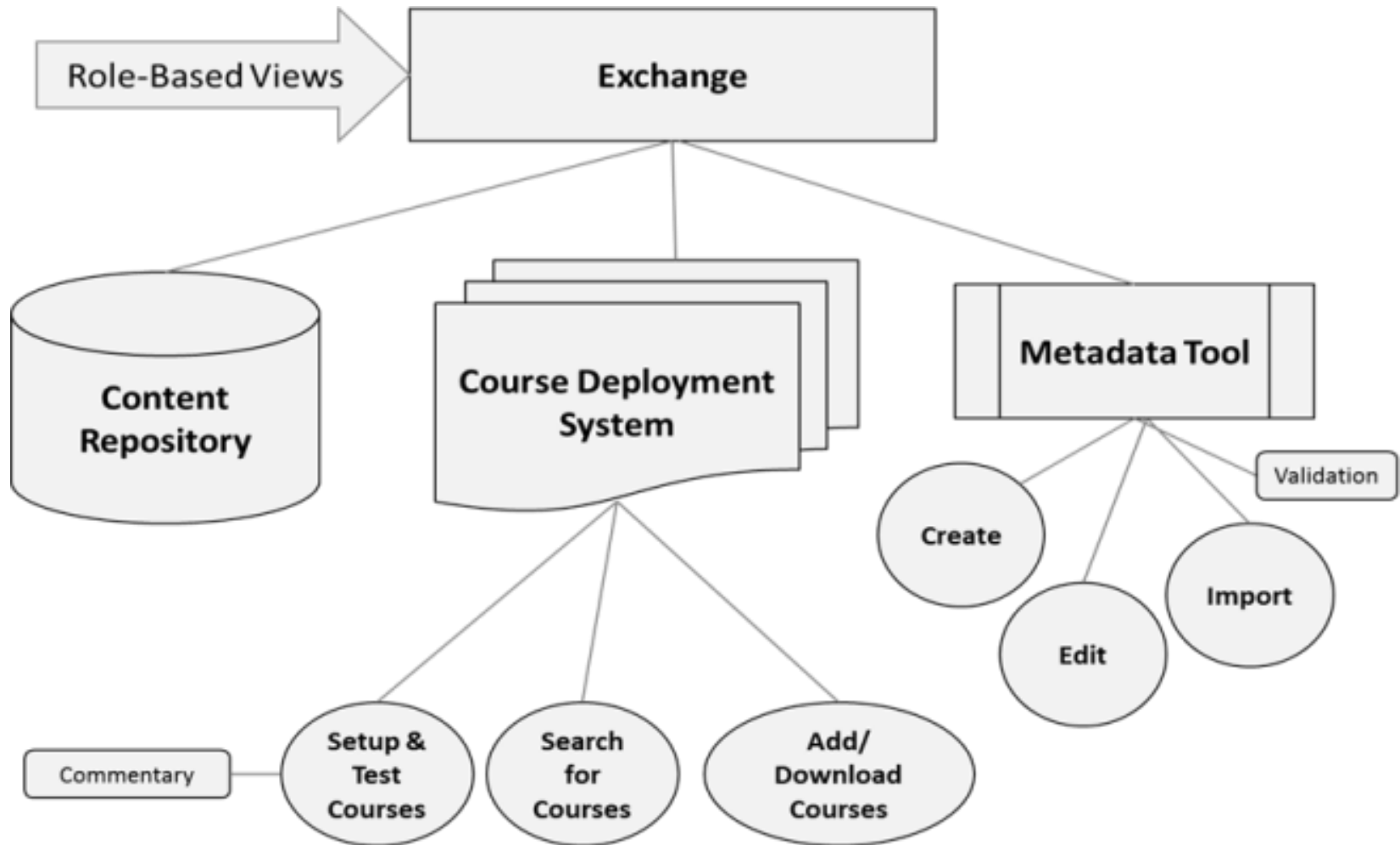
# Growing the Sharing Community

- **Early Adoption**
  - Need to publicize the success stories
- **Volume of Resources Available**
  - Making the public aware of vast resources available
- **Ease of Use**
- **Metadata**
  - Employ innovative metadata harvesting tools
- **Access Controls**
  - Gain and maintain user trust in the sharing system

# Desired Cycle of Reuse

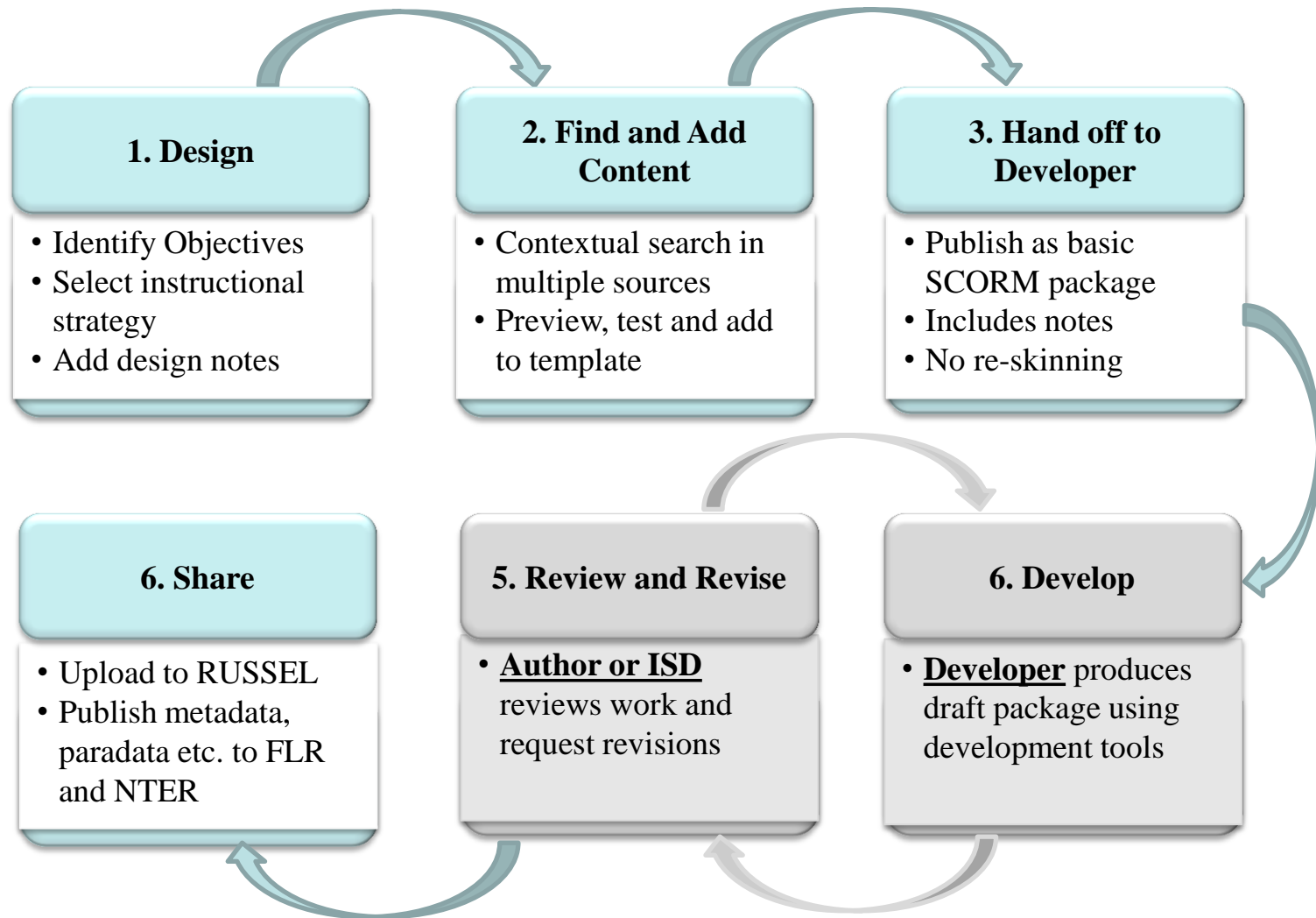


# VA-Interagency Sharing Exchange



- **Re-Usability Support System for eLearning (RUSSEL)**
- **Open Source Software (OSS):**
  - Digital Library
  - Electronic Performance Support System (EPSS)
  - Community of Practice
- **Final OSS Package: March 2013**

# RUSSEL Workflow



# Conclusion

- Sharing still important and desired
- Critical need for a **human + machine** solution
- The **human-to-human** can begin today
  - Very little up-front cost
  - ROI for DoD overall could be significant
- The **machine** solution although within reach, will be long-term
  - Will require time and resources from organizations to achieve success