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# Imagine

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## New Compliance Notes Enhancements

Within AOIS, users have the ability to write notes within the Compliance Notes Section. Using this section is a great way for the document reviewer to communicate to the AOIS submitter why a document has been marked inaccurate or incomplete and what the next steps are for the school. This section shows the date and time the note was written, who wrote the note, the subject and the content of the note. Therefore, all document compliance related communication can then be stored and retrieved directly from AOIS in just a few clicks — there is no need to sort through personal emails or written notes!

On September 9, 2009, AOIS went live with two enhancements to this section. First, a report is now available called Compliance Notes. This report can be run for one school or all schools depending on the user’s level of access and shows entered notes in an easy to read report. The second enhancement includes an email notification that goes out to the specified users when a new note is added or updated. The email notification lets the users know that a new note has been added/updated in AOIS and also contains the actual note entered.

We hope that our clients who have chosen to take part in these enhancements find them beneficial and make their oversight activities more efficient.

To learn more about these enhancements or to see a free, online demonstration of AOIS, please contact Stephanie Misner or Meghann Murphy by calling (616) 942-8865.

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SEPTEMBER 2009

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Make this the year you “get it under control!”

If you want to start your next school year firmly in control of a proven oversight program that documents every compliance action, provides an easy-to-use user interface and has been audited by multiple State Auditor Generals and declared a “Gold Standard” call us now.

How many times have you heard State politicians call for “more charter school oversight”? It’s easy to continually call for more oversight—it’s much harder to prove your actions are consistent, measured and applied equally to all schools.

# East St Louis School District Chooses AOIS

East St. Louis School District 189 began authorizing charter schools in 1999. After 10 years of overseeing charter schools for the district they decided to purchase AOIS because of the increasing volume of work. Renee Mayfield, Charter School Liaison, spends a lot of her time interfacing with charter school administrators, the Superintendent of the District, and the attorney's. She not only works as the Charter School Liaison but she leverages the expertise of District 189's professional staff as they review data, provide advice, and write selected reports.

AOIS will help School District 189 and its charter schools avoid the "pile ups" that occur when computer-driven data and processes meet their manually manipulated counterparts. There has been an over-reliance on the "quick" telephone

call to the liaison for answers to simple matters of policy or procedure — administrators will now be able to turn first to AOIS to locate the policies and procedures and quickly find an answer. Having continual access to compliance requirements by using AOIS daily will foster greater confidence and independence among school administrators.

AOIS will enable the charter schools to spend less time preparing, submitting, filing, and retrieving data and in turn devote more time providing quality instruction. School District 189 knows that there is no escaping the multiple demands of computer-driven processes. In order to build on their vision of a world-class infrastructure that will help meet their authorizer responsibilities they decided to choose AOIS!

## Why AOIS?

### Compliance

AOIS tracks the compliance status of each school authorized, and reports this instantly in a graphical interface that is easy to use.

### Electronic Filing

AOIS is also an electronic filing system, so every document associated with schools is immediately available and can be accessed from any location.

### Workflow

AOIS also incorporates a workflow system that informs employees when it is time to perform a specific task, and flows documents from employee to employee electronically, ensuring the work is done consistently among all schools.

### Performance

AOIS also includes a performance module that tracks and reports student and school achievement.

## Race To The Top – Are You Participating?

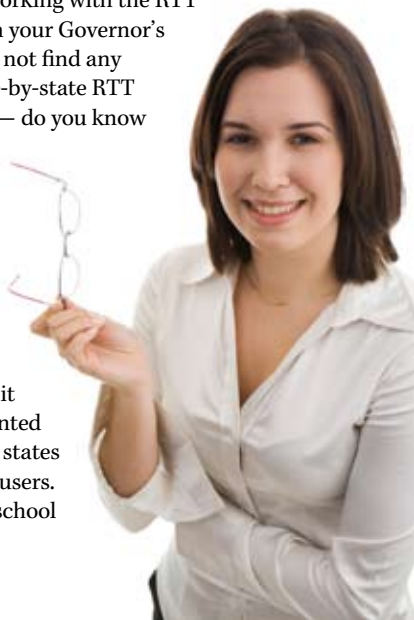
The Race to the Top (RTT) website [here](#) contains a lot of information concerning how \$4,350,000,000. (\$4.35B) is going to be awarded to states who seek these funds. After plowing through the eight page Executive Summary and the overview PowerPoint and notes you "kinda" understand how this monster is going to be unleashed.

Applications need to be submitted by your State and pre-approved by the DOE before the State officially submits their plan. There are two rounds for submission, one prior to 12/31/2009 and the second late next Spring (date undefined). States that don't get an award in the first round can submit for the second round with no penalty.

The web site does a good job emphasizing that a systemic approach to reform that addresses four areas listed is mandatory. I won't go into detail here — the web site does a good job.

Is your school, sponsor, EMO, State Charter School Association working with the RTT coordinator in your Governor's office? I could not find any listing of state-by-state RTT coordinators — do you know who your state contact is?

AOIS seems like a natural fit to receive grant dollars under RTT as it has a documented success in ten states with over 750 users. It has helped school



leaders and authorizers answer accountability issues and has helped improve practices at the school, one of the four key areas within RTT.

If you would like to join an on-line discussion group on Race to the Top, we would host the web site and use our new Collaborate software product to host the WIKI. Send Larry Brannan an email ([lbrannan@corpcomp.com](mailto:lbrannan@corpcomp.com)) if you'd like to be in the group. No charge — let's collaborate!

## AOIS Security FAQ's

### How is AOIS protected from virus attacks?

All AOIS servers have Symantec Endpoint Protection installed. This gives Corporate Computer (CC) a central interface to see if there are any infected files detected on any of the servers and to see when the last update took place. All files submitted to AOIS go through an additional antivirus scan before being accepted into the indexing application. If any of the servers were to get infected, our technicians would start to get notifications immediately and would resolve the issue or turn off the server.

### Can users see what data is going over the internet?

All data going between a user's PC and the AOIS system is encrypted. The lowest encryption that will be accepted is RC4-56 bit.

### What about the data stored on AOIS? Is it safe?

Corporate Computer uses Cisco firewalls to protect its servers. CC also monitors all traffic to ensure that there are no brute force attacks on its servers. CC monitors all of the servers to make sure that they are running within specifications. All of the data is backed up nightly and taken to a vault. Full backups are done once a week and tapes are moved off-site to a location more than 25 miles away.

For additional questions regarding AOIS security, please contact our Chief Technology Officer, David Schroeter by calling (616) 942-8865.



## CC Upcoming Events

### 2009 NACSA Conference

Corporate Computer will be attending the 2009 NACSA Leadership Conference, October 19-21st in Salt Lake City, Utah. We would like to invite you to attend our AOIS Users Group Breakfast on Tuesday, October 20th from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. If you are interested in attending the AOIS Users Group Breakfast please contact Meghann Murphy for additional information at (616) 988-3215. We look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City!

### 2009 Florida Charter School Conference

Corporate Computer will also be attending the 2009 Florida Charter School Conference, November 16-18th in Orlando, Florida. We will be showcasing a new communications tool called Collaborate! and AOIS! Please stop by and see a live demo. We hope to see you in the Sunshine State!

### 2009 OAPCS Annual State Conference

Lastly, Corporate Computer will also be attending the OAPCS Annual State Conference, November 16th-17th in Columbus, Ohio. To schedule a time to meet with an AOIS representative at any of the conferences please call (616) 988-3215.



## AOIS Users Speak Out

William Pistulka Charter Schools Officer

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

### Why did you buy AOIS?

Northern Michigan University purchased AOIS because it provided the most comprehensive tool available to schools for compliance. The format is user friendly and keeps documents organized.

### What do you like best about using the tool?

The tool is efficient and keeps the oversight requirements organized and timely. It provides critical information for our office.

### What would you tell someone else about the tool?

This tool is an excellent way to monitor schools for oversight purposes. It is easy to use and the AOIS staff is very supportive when concerns arise. We believe this is the best system available to authorizers who are serious about oversight and compliance of their schools.

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