

# A Web-Based Knowledge Exploitation Toolset for the CBDP

Gaylen W. Drapé  
Program Manager  
ENSCO, Inc.

Chemical Biological Information Systems Conference  
Austin, TX

January 10, 2007

# Outline

- Motivation for Knowledge Exploitation Tools
- Conceptual Architecture / Process
- Software Technology Demonstration
- Potential Use Cases
- Implementation Issues
- Summary

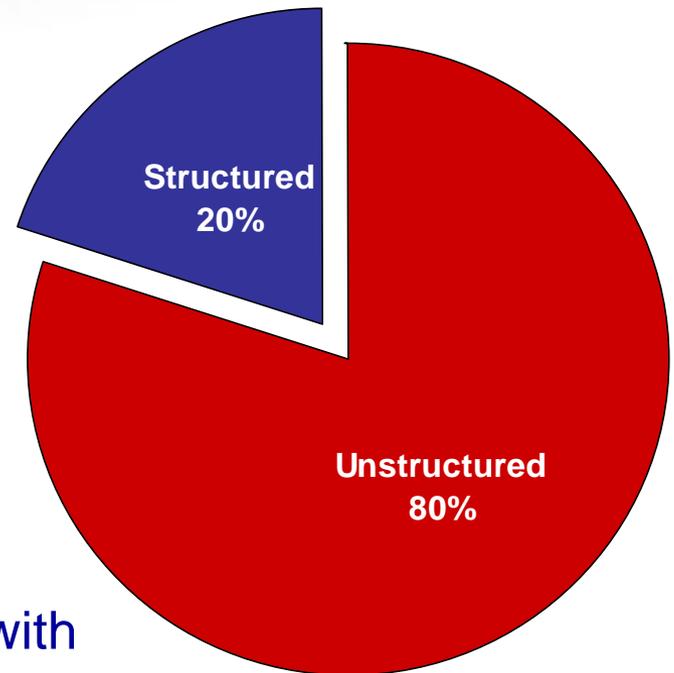
# Challenges to Effective CBDP Decision Making

- Multiple participant organizations (government, industry, academia)
- Large volume of data stored in multiple formats and schemas
- Different business processes inherently require different kinds of information
  - S&T development
  - Product development
  - Testing and evaluation
  - Field O&M
- Inconsistent semantic standards increase difficulty of searching, analyzing, and adding to the body of knowledge

**Need tools to grow and manage a complex knowledge base**

# Exploitation of Unstructured Information

- **Structured data**
  - Rows, columns, tables
  - Relationships predetermined
  - Tells the user “what”
- **Unstructured content**
  - Text, images, media
  - Structure can be discovered
  - Tells the user “how” and “why”
- **Most business processes conducted with unstructured information (see right)**



Source: Gartner Group

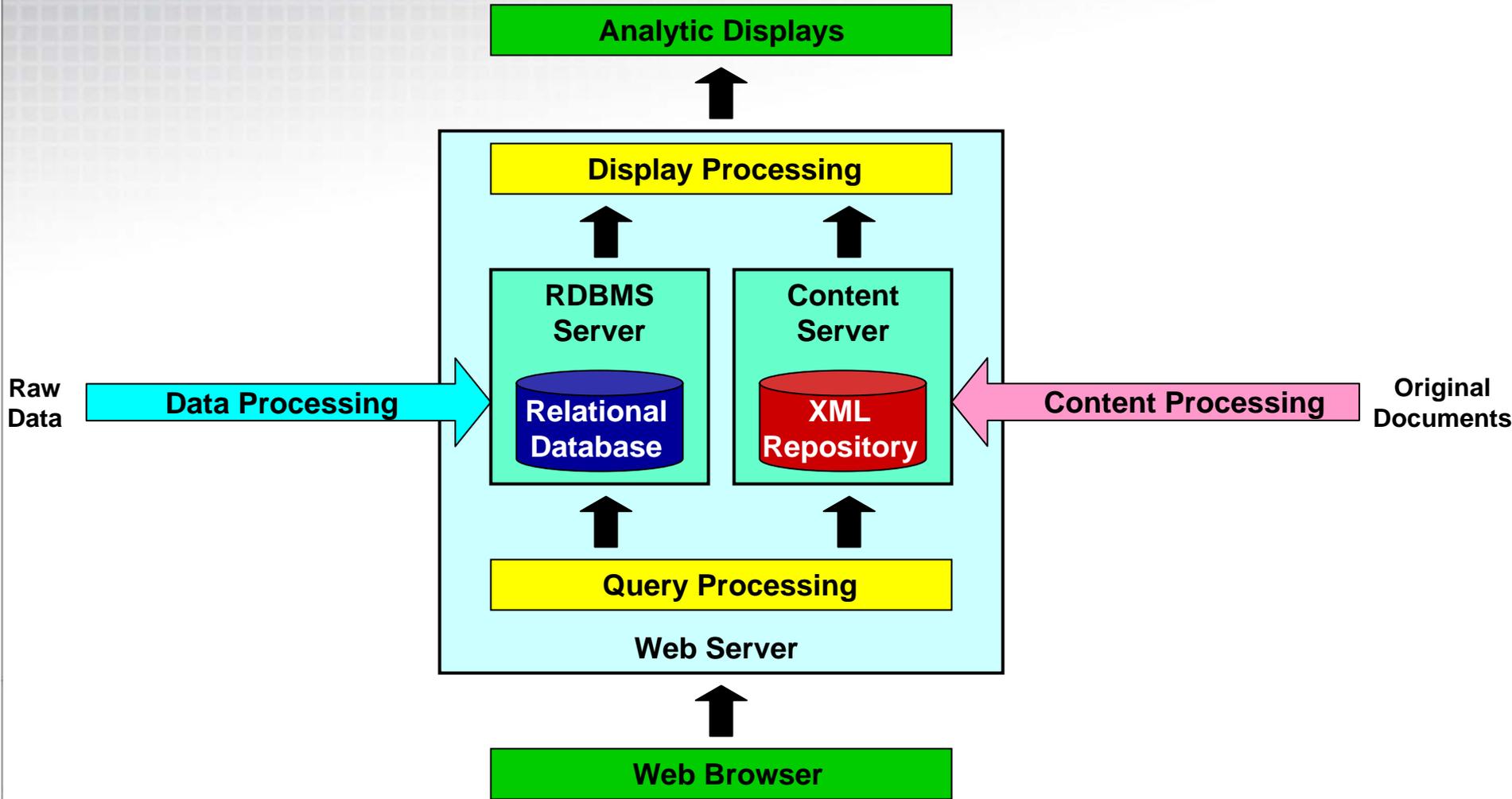
**Exploitation of unstructured content is a huge opportunity**

# Technology Illustration: Biological Knowledge Base

- BioKB was a BAA project funded by DIA and DTRA
- Developed prototype biological data portal for MASINT and Biodefense communities
- Software built with Government-furnished data and content (~1 GB) from multiple sources (see below)

Structured *	Unstructured **
Bioassay protocols Project descriptions	Assay procedures Project deliverable docs Detector market survey DNA Purification survey S&T background info
* spreadsheets	** documents (Web, Word, .pdf, hard copy)

# Conceptual Architecture / Processing



# Software Demonstration

Biological Knowledge Base Prototype  
Unclassified demo: <https://www.biokb.ensco.com>

For access, contact: Sandra Mahl – [mahl.sandy@ensco.com](mailto:mahl.sandy@ensco.com)  
(321) 775-7547



## Biological Knowledge Base

[Home](#)[Contact Us](#)

### Sign-In

User Name: Password: [New User?](#)[Forgot  
UserName/Password?](#)

### About Us

The MASINT/Biodefense System Evaluation Program (M/BSEP) grew out of a need for a searchable database for information to be shared across the MASINT and Biodefense communities. This database was initially populated with PCR assays, and has now expanded to include R&D project information and other information of interest to program managers, scientists, analysts, and others working in biology. The goal is to organize in a searchable form information submitted by any member of the community. The end objective of storing and organizing this information is to help reduce duplication of effort, facilitate coordination of projects, optimize return on efforts, identify overlaps and gaps, benefit from lessons learned, and improve our ability to leverage and collaborate with other government organizations.

DIA/DTT-1



# Biological Knowledge Base



[Home](#) [Search](#) [My Account](#) [Log Out](#) [Help](#) [Contact Us](#)

*Welcome Gaylen*

## Search Tools

[Assay Search](#)  
[Project Search](#)  
[MarketSurvey Search](#)  
[Document Search](#)

## Submission Tools

[Create Assay For Submission](#)  
[Submit Assay For Review](#)  
[Create Project For Submission](#)  
[Submit Project](#)

## Other Information

[External Links](#)

## Administration

[Data Admin](#)  
[User Admin](#)



# Biological Knowledge Base



[Home](#) [Search](#) [My Account](#) [Log Out](#) [Help](#) [Contact Us](#)

## Assay Type

<b>GENETIC</b> IMMUNOLOGICAL MICROBIOLOGICAL	<b>PCR</b> RT-PCR	<b>END POINT</b> FRET <b>TAQMAN</b>
--	----------------------	---

## Agent Type

<b>BACTERIA</b> FUNGUS PLANT PROTEIN/TOXIN VIRUS	<b>Bacillus anthracis</b> Bacillus anthracis strain Ames Bacillus globigii Bacillus subtilis Bacillus thuringiensis Brucella abortus Brucella melitensis Brucella species
--	--



# Biological Knowledge Base



[Home](#) [Search](#) [My Account](#) [Log Out](#) [Help](#) [Contact Us](#)

Search results for: Assay Type: GENETIC and PCR and TAQMAN and Agent Type: BACTERIA and Agent Name: Bacillus anthracis

Assay ID	Agent Name	Type	POC	Detection Limit	Instrument	Target Gene	Amplicon Length	Last Modified
<a href="#">6</a>	Bacillus anthracis	GENETIC, PCR, TAQMAN	John Doe	100.0 fg	R.A.P.I.D Light Cycler	capA	89.0	2005-02-23
<a href="#">7</a>	Bacillus anthracis	GENETIC, PCR, TAQMAN	John Doe	50.0 fg	R.A.P.I.D Light Cycler	capB	84.0	2005-02-23

[New Search](#)



# Biological Knowledge Base



- [Home](#)
- [Search](#)
- [My Account](#)
- [Log Out](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

[Return to Search Results](#)

### Oligo Summary for PCR Primer Set # 1

Sequence Type	Melting Temp(°C)	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration	Volume (µL)	Sequence	Length(bases)
Primer A	58.3	0.0 nM	0.0 nM	0.0	CTAGCTAGCTAGCTAGCTAGCTAG	20
Primer A	58.4	0.0 nM	0.0 nM	0.0	CTAGCTAGCTAGCTAGCTAGCTAG	20
Primer B	68.3	0.0 nM	0.0 nM	0.0	CTAGCTAGCTAGCTAGCTAGCTAG	20

Primer #	Amplicon Length (bp)	Detection Limit	Gene	Agent
1	89.0	100.0 fg	<a href="#">capA</a>	Bacillus anthracis of type BACTERIA

### Instrument - R.A.P.I.D Light Cycler (PCR)

#### Reaction Conditions

Component Name	Source	Type	Volume (µL)	Stock Concentration	Final Concentration
----------------	--------	------	-------------	---------------------	---------------------



# Biological Knowledge Base



[Home](#) [Search](#) [My Account](#) [Log Out](#) [Help](#) [Contact Us](#)

[Assay Search](#)

[Project Search](#)

[MarketSurvey Search](#)

[Document Search](#)



# Biological Knowledge Base



- Home
- Search
- My Account
- Log Out
- Help
- Contact Us




Using a value from the drop down list (category) as a search term has unpredictable results.

## Document Search

## Document Mining

Searched for viral

Results 1 - 10 of about 53 (0.23 seconds)

Below are documents including your search term. Displayed with each result is the first instance that contains the search term, a score and the DDMS security and resource information, and a link to the beginning of the document.

[Vaccines--How and Why](#)

DDMS Security  
Classification: U

DDMS Resource  
Creator:  
Title: Vaccines--How and Why

Jenner's process came to be called "vaccination," after "vacca," the Latin word for cow, and the substance used to vaccinate was called a "vaccine." Now, some 200 years later, we have progressed from a time when vaccination was a rare event, and Jenner's theories about vaccination were not widely accepted, to the late 1900s when vaccines are so commonplace that most children receive multiple vaccinations before they reach their first birthdays. The result of such widespread vaccination has been a marked decrease in diseases which once ravaged the world's population. An example of this is smallpox: once a major cause of death world-wide, the smallpox virus is now found only in freezers in high-containment laboratories at the Centers for Disease



# Biological Knowledge Base


[Home](#)
[Search](#)
[My Account](#)
[Log Out](#)
[Help](#)
[Contact Us](#)




Using a value from the drop down list (category) as a search term has unpredictable results.

## Document Search

## Document Mining

Searched for viral

Results 1 - 1 of 1 (0.2 seconds)

Below are documents including your search term. Displayed with each result is the first instance that contains the search term, a score and the DDMS security and resource information, and a link to the beginning of the document.

### [Vaccines--How and Why](#)

**DDMS Security**  
Classification: U

**DDMS Resource**  
Creator:  
Title: Vaccines--How and Why

Jenner's process came to be called "vaccination," after "vacca," the Latin word for cow, and the substance used to vaccinate was called a "vaccine." Now, some 200 years later, we have progressed from a time when vaccination was a rare event, and Jenner's theories about vaccination were not widely accepted, to the late 1900s when vaccines are so commonplace that most children receive multiple vaccinations before they reach their first birthdays. The result of such widespread vaccination has been a marked decrease in diseases which once ravaged the world's population. An example of this is smallpox: once a major cause of death world-wide, the smallpox virus is now found only in freezers in high-containment laboratories at the Centers for Disease



# Biological Knowledge Base



- Home
- Search
- My Account
- Log Out
- Help
- Contact Us

Using a value from the drop down list (category) as a search term has unpredictable results.

**Document Search** | **Document Mining**  
Searched for viral Results 1 - 4 of 4 (0.17 seconds)

Each document has been mined for the query term entered. All paragraphs containing the search are displayed.

## Document: **Vaccines--How and Why**

[fragment 1](#)

DDMS Security  
Classification: U

DDMS Resource  
Creator:  
Title: Vaccines--How and Why

Jenner's process came to be called "vaccination," after "vacca," the Latin word for cow, and the substance used to vaccinate was called a "vaccine." Now, some 200 years later, we have progressed from a time when vaccination was a rare event, and Jenner's theories about vaccination were not widely accepted, to the late 1900s when vaccines are so commonplace that most children receive multiple vaccinations before they reach their first birthdays. The result of such widespread vaccination has been a marked decrease in diseases which once ravaged the world's population. An example of this is smallpox: once a major cause of death world-wide, the smallpox virus is now found only in freezers in high-containment laboratories at the Centers for Disease



# Biological Knowledge Base



- Home
- Search
- My Account
- Log Out
- Help
- Contact Us

[fragment 2](#)

Classification: U

Creator:  
Title: Vaccines--How and Why

Disease causing organisms have at least two distinct effects on the body. The first effect is very obvious: we feel sick, exhibiting symptoms such as fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, and many others. Although the second effect is less obvious, it is this effect that generally leads to eventual recovery from the infection: the disease causing organism induces an immune response in the infected host. As the response increases in strength over time, the **infectious agents** are slowly reduced in number until symptoms disappear and recovery is complete.

How does induction of the immune response occur? The disease causing organisms contain proteins called "antigens" which stimulate the immune response. The resulting immune response is multi-fold and includes the synthesis of proteins called "antibodies." These proteins bind to the disease causing organisms and lead to their eventual destruction. In addition, "memory cells" are produced in an immune response. These are cells which remain in the blood stream, sometimes for the life span of the host, ready to mount a quick protective immune response against subsequent infections with the particular disease causing agent which induced their production. If such an infection were to occur, the memory cells would respond so quickly that the resulting immune response could inactivate the disease causing agents, and symptoms would be prevented. This response is often so rapid that infection doesn't develop - you are immune from infection.



# Biological Knowledge Base



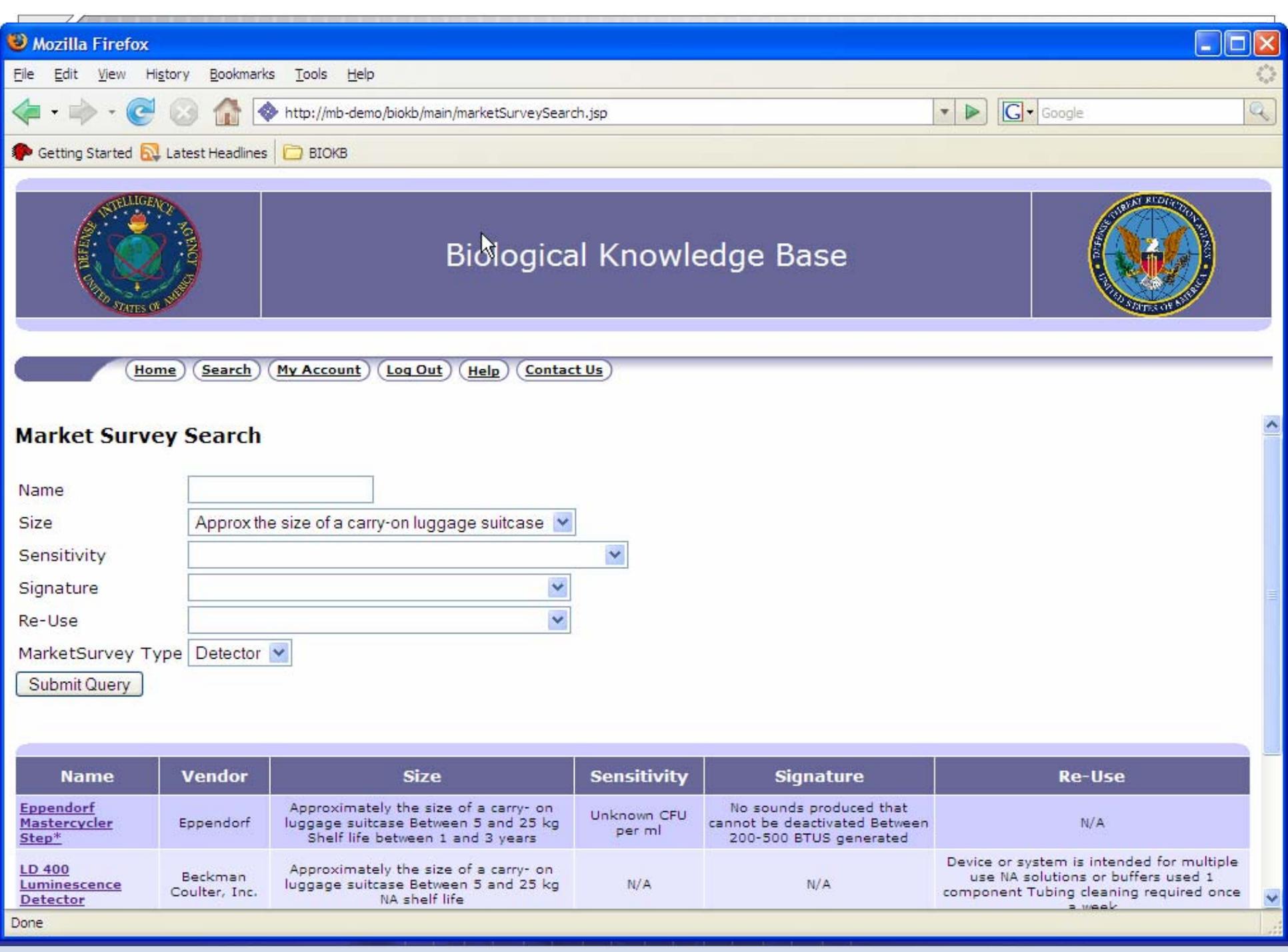
[Home](#) [Search](#) [My Account](#) [Log Out](#) [Help](#) [Contact Us](#)

[Assay Search](#)

[Project Search](#)

[MarketSurvey Search](#)

[Document Search](#)



# Biological Knowledge Base



- Home
- Search
- My Account
- Log Out
- Help
- Contact Us

## Market Survey Search

Name

Size

Sensitivity

Signature

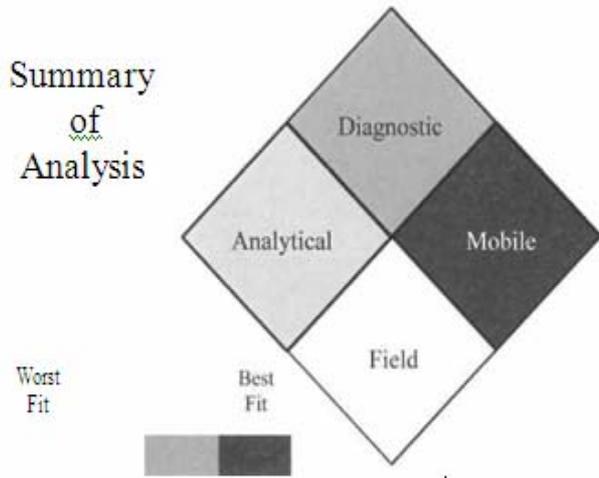
Re-Use

MarketSurvey Type

Submit Query

Name	Vendor	Size	Sensitivity	Signature	Re-Use
<a href="#">Eppendorf Mastercycler Step*</a>	Eppendorf	Approximately the size of a carry-on luggage suitcase Between 5 and 25 kg Shelf life between 1 and 3 years	Unknown CFU per ml	No sounds produced that cannot be deactivated Between 200-500 BTUS generated	N/A
<a href="#">LD 400 Luminescence Detector</a>	Beckman Coulter, Inc.	Approximately the size of a carry-on luggage suitcase Between 5 and 25 kg NA shelf life	N/A	N/A	Device or system is intended for multiple use NA solutions or buffers used 1 component Tubing cleaning required once a week

### Summary of Analysis



### MatriCycler Evaluation Criteria Provided by Vendor

Sensitivity:  
• NACFUperm1

Maturity Gauge:  
• A few devices or systems exist (brass board)



- System requirements:
- System or device has 110V electrical requirement
  - The system or device does not require water
  - The system or device does not require an external air or gas source
  - The system or device does not require an external vacuum source

- Re-use:
- Device or system is intended for single use
  - NA solution or butler used
  - NA components
  - NA cleaning

Maintenance:

- Ease of use/Utility
- Cannot view results "in real time"
  - NA centrifugation steps
  - NA vortexing steps
  - NA to interpret raw data or call a positive through internal software
  - NA detecting multiple biological agents or toxins within the same test
  - NA additional pieces of equipment needed
  - NA sample purification



## Biological Knowledge Base

[Home](#)[Contact Us](#)

### Sign-In

User Name: Password: [New User?](#)[Forgot  
UserName/Password?](#)

### About Us

The MASINT/Biodefense System Evaluation Program (M/BSEP) grew out of a need for a searchable database for information to be shared across the MASINT and Biodefense communities. This database was initially populated with PCR assays, and has now expanded to include R&D project information and other information of interest to program managers, scientists, analysts, and others working in biology. The goal is to organize in a searchable form information submitted by any member of the community. The end objective of storing and organizing this information is to help reduce duplication of effort, facilitate coordination of projects, optimize return on efforts, identify overlaps and gaps, benefit from lessons learned, and improve our ability to leverage and collaborate with other government organizations.

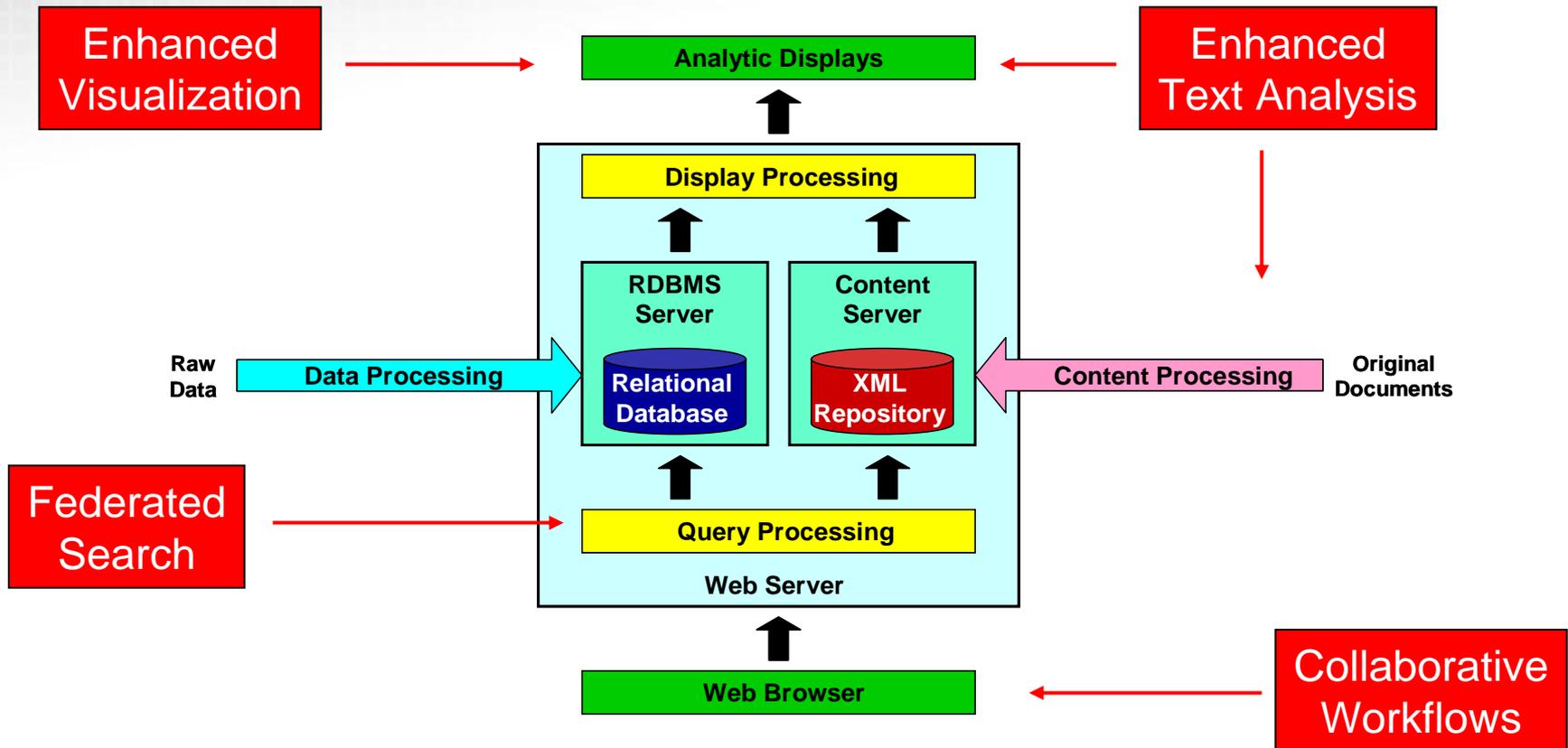
DIA/DTT-1

# End of Demonstration

# Business Cases for Unstructured Content Analysis

- **Detector Capability Assessment**
  - **Issue:** Difficult to compare and evaluate detector characteristics across multiple dimensions
  - **Solution:** Analysis of detector documentation, automatically summarize entities & concepts, route among SMEs for comment
  - **Benefit:** Accelerate creation/adoption of data standards, enable deeper understanding of capability and investment opportunities
- **Test Traceability**
  - **Issue:** Test plans & procedures not consistent with standards
  - **Solution:** Search/retrieve/parse content from existing test DB/documents, then map to elements of standard test process
  - **Benefit:** Facilitate creation of overarching T&E model for broader application of test data, more efficient use of resources

# Potential Architecture Directions



# Implementation Issues

## Issues we encountered in the BioKB project:

- Accessibility of Documents via Government WANs
- Verification and Validation of input document content
- Certification and Accreditation of COTS technology components
- Organizational barriers to information sharing

**Issues are both technical and non-technical in nature**

## Some ideas:

- Strong governance by Sponsor, e.g. steering group
- Partnership agreements among users/developers/integrators
- Provision of software test / demonstration network

# Summary and Concluding Thoughts

- Opportunity for exploitation of unstructured data
  - Increase level of knowledge sharing across CBDP community
  - Answer “tough questions” to speed up development and transition
  - Reduced effort of CBD researchers and analysts
- Maturing industry standards and community-wide data integration make web-based KB tools feasible
- Broad-scale implementation a challenge for technical and non-technical reasons
- Suggest development of focused pilot KB applications to work out implementation issues, demonstrate ROI

**Thank You!**