



May Monthly Report
Volume 1 No. 5

The DataPortability Project

What is the DataPortability Project?:

Mission: To Consult, Design, Educate and Advocate Interoperable Data Portability to Users, Developers and Vendors

Definition: Data Portability is the option to use your personal data between trusted applications and vendors

Praise for the Monthly Report :

"The DataPortability Project Report is the first place I go to stay informed about the group's accomplishments, goals and challenges."

-Dave Evans, Digicraft



May 2008 Highlights

Big Vendors, Big news that continues to drive the Dataportability.org project objectives

May was big vendor announcement month on topics of great interest to the DataPortability project. On May 8th MySpace announced their "[Data Availability](#)" project. The day after on May 9th Facebook announced "[Facebook Connect](#)" and then on May 12th, Google announced [Friend Connect](#). All first steps towards data portability. Companies are listening now and even analyst firm [Gartner states](#) that these changes that allow third-party sites to more easily integrate with Google, Facebook and MySpace show the continued evolution of a distributed social Web and that web managers should take notice or risk being left behind. The DataPortability Project aims to help Users, Vendors and Developers understand and navigate these issues around data portability ([please see our Approach](#)). Executives at vendors that do not run large social networks continue to reach out to the DataPortability Project members, looking to participate or offer thanks for the work we are doing.

DataPortability Legal Taskforce and Governance

DataPortability Legal Taskforce and Governance Project members have been working around the clock to finalize the Governance processes of the DataPortability Project which we aim to be finalized in June and will lead to final decisions on the Legal Entity setup. The governance work is being driven by J. Trent Adams (founder of Matchmine), Mike Smith (consultant), Brett McDowell (executive director of Liberty Alliance), Steve Greenberg (CEO of



"Stickers on my Dell Latitude XT Tablet PC" - including DataPortability by Robert Scoble

Ciabe), Brady Brim-DeForest (CEO of Human Global Media) and chaired by Elias Bizannes. The [Legal Entity Taskforce](#) is being chaired by Brady.

The proposed Governance model will embed some major improvements that will help the Project move forward in the future, with greater accountability and even more transparency in how the Project operates

Data Sharing Summit 2

DataPortability Project members participated in the well-attended in the [DataSharing Summit 2](#) in Mountain View, CA where individuals from various organizations discussed tackling the problem of how users' data can move around the web under their control. A [Service Provider Matrix](#) was worked on that aims to illustrate the state of what features are available and if providers are using open standards to implement them. Notes from the Summit [available here](#).

DataPortability Project Member Highlight

In May, Bob Ngu started a blog series called '[In The Wild](#)' which are blog-length interviews with various in the wild

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Ngu 'In The Wild' continued..

applications describing their processes and the technologies that they use in regards to data portability.

We encourage new and current members of the Project to initiate projects such as this that further the discussion around data portability.

What is the DataPortability Project Monthly report?

Since the emergence of the project in NOV 2007, a every month since, the Project has continued to grow, while concrete outputs are developed and delivered. This report aims to highlight things that affect and drive the DataPortability project.

May Press Highlights:

Highlights of news coverage on data portability topics. You can also check out who's saying and writing about data portability in the [Press Room](#) or in [this collection of news feeds](#) that includes many bloggers who cover the subject

- [MySpace Ready To Embrace Data Portability](#). Peter Kafka Silicon Alley Insider. May 8th
- [Google brings Friend Connect to the masses](#). Dan Farber CNET May 12th
- [Welcome to the social mess? Caroline McCarthy](#) CNET May 12th
- [Prying Open the Social Graph](#). Stacey Higginbotham Gigaom May 12th
- [Easier Sharing Is Goal. Of Portability Project](#). Lee Gomes. The Wall Street Journal. May 13th
- [What's Next for Data Portability & Why is Facebook Still Holding Back?](#) Richard MacManus ReadWriteWeb May 13th
- [Battle Over Data Ownership on Gillmor Gang](#) Michael Arrington Techcrunch/Washington Post May 16th
- [Google, Facebook, MySpace Move to a Distributed Social Web](#)- Gartner May 15th
- [Where Portals and Social Networks Collide](#). Special Report Business Week. May 19th
- [Facebook, Google Square Off Over Who Controls Your Data](#). Scott Gilbertson Wired May 16th



What are the DataPortability Action Groups?

The Action Groups own a part of the DataPortability story. They are the lifeblood of the initiative. They make things happen. As the months progress, each Action Group continues to self-organize around emerging issues and the arrival of new volunteer talent, at the same time developing road maps and action plans for their specific topics. You can find the results on the various Action Groups discussion lists and pages listed here

For questions or more information about this monthly report:
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The Steering Action Group

Responsible for setting the direction and sustaining the DataPortability Project as a cohesive whole. Consists of representatives from the other action groups and individuals who wish to help set the direction of the project.

May Members Count: 87

The Technical Action Group

In charge of curating the Design goals, Use Cases and Technical Blueprint development. The goal is to find and contextualize existing work from other groups to weave them into a story - not to invent or discuss the problems/solutions from scratch.

May Members Count: 124

The Policy Action Group

Tasked with creating a Policy Blueprint. Feeds off of issues identified by the Technical Action

Group as well as other discussions about broader issues such as privacy, user rights, and law, and more.

May Members Count 56

The Evangelism Action Group

Tasked with managing all internal and external content, collaboration, and communications, this group maintains documentation, manages media relations, and develops information products that ensure consistent message and effective collaboration between the Action Groups.

May Members Count: 126

The Implementation Action Group

Group Definition: Tasked with assisting developers in implementing the given standards and blueprints that enable Data Portability.

May Members Count: 103

Global Meetups

DataPortability: los angeles



Ilya Haykinson from Hulu and Brady Brim-DeForest
DataPortability Meetup Los Angeles,
May 24th 2008 at Found Gallery

Want a chance to include your own Meetup photo in the monthly report? Tag it on Flickr 'DataPortability'

Speaking Events

The following events had representatives of the DataPortability Project present**:

- DataPortability Project presentation to the [Boston Technology Leadership Council](#)
May 21st- Trent Adams
- [BarCamp Brisbane 2](#) - and Barcamp perth
2 May 2008 - Elias Bizannes
- [Netsquared N2Y3 Conference](#) - May 27th
San Jose, CA . Daniela Barbosa session on "DataPortability.org project overview and discussion"

All DataPortability Project members are encouraged to participate in spreading the DataPortability message at local conferences and events. For formal representation of the DataPortability project issues, please contact [Daniela Barbosa](#). Please see the [Press Room](#) for additional contact information and official press inquiries

**DataPortability Project members- Want to add your speaking event to the monthly report? Please Add it to the [Speakers Bureau!](#)

Relevant Links

- [DataPortability Wiki](#)
- [DataPortability Discussion Lists](#)
- [Monthly Process Reports](#)
- [Data Portability Timeline](#)
- [Press Room](#)

DataPortability in Motion Podcast

The [DataPortability in Motion Podcast](#) has been a smashing success with hosts J. Trent Adams and Steve Greenberg. Five episodes where recorded in May, with more than 1,000 downloads and subscriptions:

[5/2/2008](#): Paul Trevithick, CEO of Parity and the Founder of the Higgins Project

[5/9/2008](#): Danny Ayers, Semantic Web Developer at Talis; Brady Brim-Deforest, founder of Human Global Media

[5/16/2008](#): Plaxo - Joseph Smarr, Chief Platform Architect, and John McCrae, VP Marketing; Google - Kevin Marks, Developer Advocate for OpenSocial

[5/23/2008](#): Guest: Robert Scoble, Managing Director of FastCompany.tv

[5/30/2008](#): Guest: R. Mark Adams, Ph.D., Senior Associate at Booz Allen Hamilton