


Thursday, April 23, 2009
2:00 – 3:15 p.m.
Chelsea/Gotham

**The Academic Transcript is Now Digital –
Improving Student Service Worldwide**


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What is an eTranscript?

▸ **What's wrong with paper?**


- Despite the use of security paper, fraud is a growing problem
- Delivery of paper is slow and expensive
- Does not reasonably provide for delivery confirmation
- Is generally not trackable
- Does not support automated operations



What is an eTranscript?

▸ **Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)**

- The transfer of data between different schools and organizations using networks, such as VANs. The network in American Higher Education is the "Texas Server"
- The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approved a set of EDI standards known as the X12 standards.
- EDI has been in the higher education sector for nearly 2 decades. Growth has been slow.



What is an eTranscript?

▸ Extensible Markup Language (XML)

- A general-purpose markup language that supports a wide variety of applications. It's more famous cousin is HTML. XML is very flexible.
- Its primary purpose is to facilitate the sharing of data across different information systems, particularly systems connected via the Internet
- The Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) provides technical standards for the exchange of transcript data streams using XML.



What is an eTranscript?

▸ Portable Document Format (PDF)

- An open standards format created and controlled by Adobe Systems®
- PDF files are exact images of the original document in a device-independent way. The PDF format can represent complex documents that use a variety of different fonts, graphics, colors, and images.
- There are multiple options to create PDF documents and to read PDF documents. Most of these options are free.



What is an eTranscript?

▸ Security?

- EDI, XML, PDF are inherently NOT secure
- Security must include a non-repudiated source and document authenticity
- Proprietary certifications are expensive and time consuming
- Public/Private Key Infrastructure provides industry standard strong security
- Trusted networks are secure at the network and document level



The Exchange of Transcripts

› Admission to college

- Typical freshmen admission process
- High school to 2-year or 4-year school
- Value of the transcript in the application process



The Exchange of Transcripts

▪ College to College Transfer

- Community college to 4-year
- 4-year to 4-year for a variety of personal reasons
- Summer school enrollments
- Course equivalency



The Exchange of Transcripts

› Undergraduate to Graduate/Professional

- Common to require a transcript during the admission application and a final transcript after graduation
- May involve a "clearinghouse" such as medical, law, dental, veterinarian, etc.
- Admission may be centralized or decentralized
- Receiving credentials from overseas schools
 - Degree and program equivalencies
 - Document fraud



The Exchange of Transcripts

► School to Employer

- Validate completion of degree for employment
- Background verification
- The "Inconvenience Factor"
- The "Fraud Factor"



The Exchange of Transcripts

► School to Student

- Usually not for advising purposes
- For employment
- Tuition reimbursement from employer
- Private scholarship application
- Sometimes just to have a copy!



The Applicable Media

	PDF	XML
Admission to college	Yes	Possible
College to College Transfer	Yes	Yes
Undergraduate to Graduate/Professional	Yes	Unlikely
School to Employer	Yes	No
School to Student	Yes	No



Setting the stage

▸ Student service issues

- US Mail is too slow, no delivery control
- Overnight mail is too expensive
- Typical student question – Was my transcript delivered?
- Typical recipient question – Is this document authentic



Setting the stage

▸ Typical staff questions

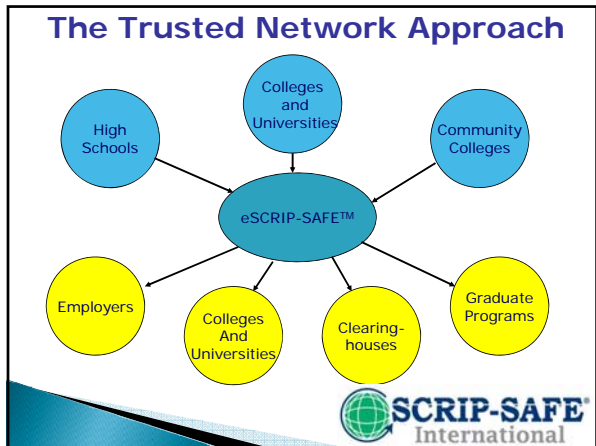
- Will this work with my Student Information System?
- When will my IT staff have time to implement?
- Do I need to change my internal process?
- Can I afford the service?





- Joe Orndorff, President and CEO
- Document Security Specialists for 20 years
- 1,800 clients world wide
 - Transcript Security Paper
 - eSCRIP-SAFE® (Secure Electronic Transcripts)
 - Transcripts On Demand (Ordering Service)
 - Diplomas on Demand® (Desktop Diploma Software)
 - Custom Designed and Decorated Diploma and Certificate Paper







Can I Afford the Service?

- **No cost to receive a transcript**
 - ✓ Connected to the internet and free Adobe Reader
 - ✓ Sign-up online or at the booth
- **Cost to send a transcript**
 - ✓ \$2,500 initial network membership fee
 - ✓ \$500 annual renewal fee
 - ✓ \$1.00 per transcript sent
- **Cost to send a transcript (SCRIP-SAFE paper customer)**
 - ✓ \$500 initial network membership fee
 - ✓ \$500 annual renewal fee
 - ✓ \$0.55 per transcript sent

For Additional Information

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