

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Center for Technology in Government at UAlbany Publishes New Findings on Opening Government

New Report Provides Case Studies, Practical Advice on the Benefits of Opening Data

The Center for Technology in Government (CTG) at the University at Albany/SUNY has released a new report, *The Dynamics of Opening Government Data*. The report is based on findings from a year-long research project, funded by SAP, to help organizations better understand the value generated through opening government.



The paper is being released today in conjunction with an SAP-hosted roundtable in New York City, featuring the City of Boston, the City of Edmonton, and thought leaders from CTG and The Brookings Institution—discussing what it means to be a Best Run City.

The report features cases from two active open data initiatives, featuring street construction projects in the City of Edmonton in Alberta, Canada, and the restaurant inspection process in New York City. Based on these cases, the report provides practical advice for government managers planning or actively engaged in opening government data initiatives.

"If public leaders want to pursue opening government, particularly through the use of new technologies and information-driven activities, they need a good understanding of how the process works," said Natalie Helbig, senior program associate at CTG and lead author of the report. "Our findings present a holistic opening government data approach to help organizations understand and evaluate the impact of different technology, management, and policy choices before they are implemented."

The Dynamics of Opening Government Data offers the following practical considerations for government managers:

- Release government data that are relevant to both agency performance and the public interest.
- Invest in strategies to estimate how different stakeholders will use the data.
- Devise data management practices that improve context in order to 'future-proof' data resources.
- Think about sustainability for long term value creation.

"What we learned from the combination of CTG's research and public sector use cases is that all stakeholders

and their patterns of interaction will evolve over time and require new practices, policies and governance arrangements. We also learned that this combined with the emergence of new technology capability enablers will lead to faster innovation and the accomplishment of objectives never considered possible." said Russ LeFevre, Vice President, Industry Marketing, SAP. "We believe this research will provide our government customers around the world with a better understanding of the impact opening government, particularly opening data, and other government transformational efforts, can have on their organizations."

The next steps in CTG's research and practice approach will be to use the initial results to guide new research in the areas of government information polities and modeling in support of opening government. In addition we will use our approach to develop practical tools to help governments continue opening government data and other information-intensive initiatives.

Download the paper>>

More information on the project can be found at: [Opening Government: Modeling the Informational Relationships between Government and Society](#)

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